

# THE *Country* GUIDE

17 JUN 1954

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JUNE, 1954





One of Canada's Leading Food Consultants

Mrs. Jehane Benoit tells

# why it pays to freeze your own food

Mrs. Jehane Benoit, Montreal, has few rivals when it comes to preparing or talking about food. One of Quebec's most popular food columnists and author of a best-seller cookbook, she is constantly in demand as a lecturer and food consultant.

"My wide experience in the preparation and preservation of foods has convinced me that the home freezer *belongs* in today's home. Here are three reasons why I use a home freezer in my home":

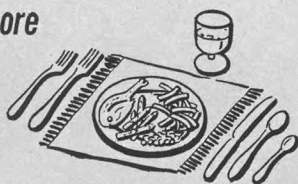
## Better Meals

Serve tastier, more nourishing food



Enjoy year 'round variety

Everything in season . . . any time of the year.



## ...Less Work

Make fewer shopping trips

—you buy in quantity at your convenience



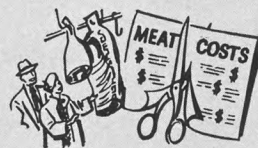
Spend less time in kitchen

Meal preparation easier . . . no left-over problem . . . freezing less work than canning.



## ...Lower Cost

Save through "in season" buying



Save through "quantity" buying

Save through grocery sales



As discriminating in her choice of kitchen appliances, as she is in her choice of foods . . .

Mrs. Benoit explains

## why it pays to own an International Harvester Home Freezer

"When you buy a home freezer—whether it be through your local appliance dealer or a frozen food plan . . . buying an International Harvester. They have been leading in the home freezer field for years . . . and the 1954 models help more than ever before. That's why I have one in my kitchen."

**More room for your food**—Seven all-new, compact home freezers that are real space savers . . . hold more food on less floor space.

**More beauty for your kitchen**—The smartest looking home freezers you have ever seen. Clean new lines that give a fresh new look to the entire room.

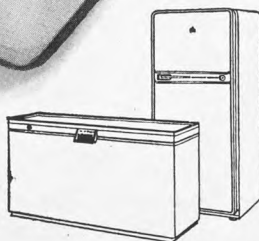
**More value for your dollar**—Chest type freezer has counter top working surface . . . frozen juice dispenser. Upright models have roll-out drawers . . . Pantry-Dor with extra shelves. Many more convenience features.

### 4 CHEST-TYPE MODELS

7 to 20 cu. ft. Counter-top lid can be covered with work surface material.

### 3 UPRIGHT MODELS

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See them now at your nearest IH refrigeration dealer's.

His name is in the yellow pages of your phone book.

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# International Harvester World's Leading Freezer

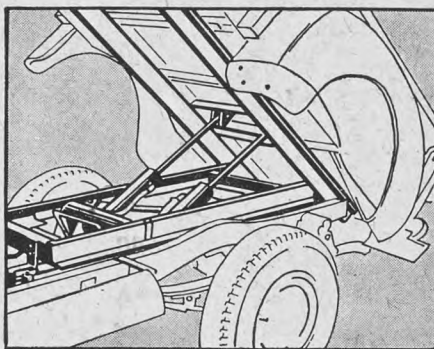
International Harvester Company of Canada Limited, Hamilton, Ont.



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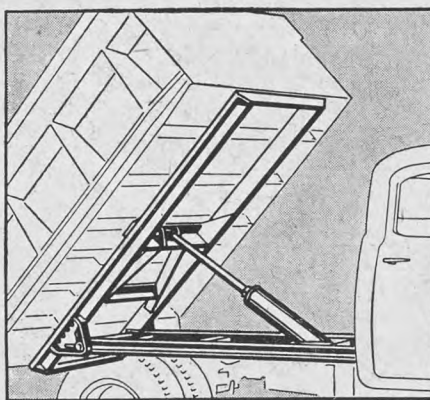
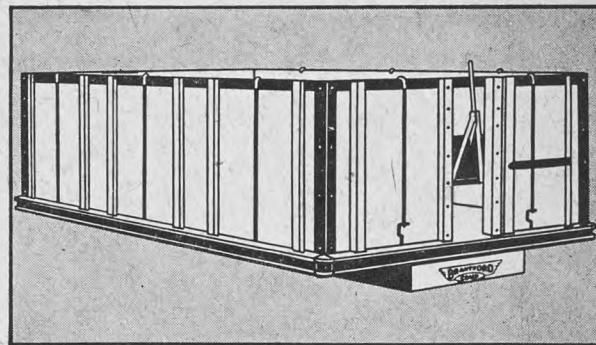


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Alex Brown relaxes under a tree near Edmonton, and browses through a well-thumbed issue of *The Country Guide*.

## THE *Country* GUIDE

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# NEW CASE "120"

## SELF-PROPELLED



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POWER  
POWER**

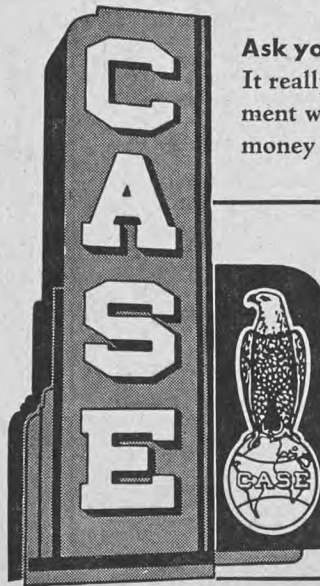
**STEERING** instantly and automatically takes over the hard work of driving in soft ground or rough ground, and in making short turns . . . makes it easy to get out of tight spots. Only takes an easy hand on the wheel.

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New Case "110" pull-type combine is built like the self-propelled "120" . . . Hydraulic Header Control, new spike-tooth cylinder or new rub-bar cylinder. Equipment available for flax, clovers, grasses, beans. Nine and 12-foot cut.



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Mark here and write in any equipment that may help make money for you. Mail to J. I. Case Co., Dept. CG-64, Calgary, Edmonton, Saskatoon, Regina, Winnipeg, London, Toronto, Montreal.

☐ "120" Self-Propelled Combine ☐ "110" Pull-Type

What else? \_\_\_\_\_

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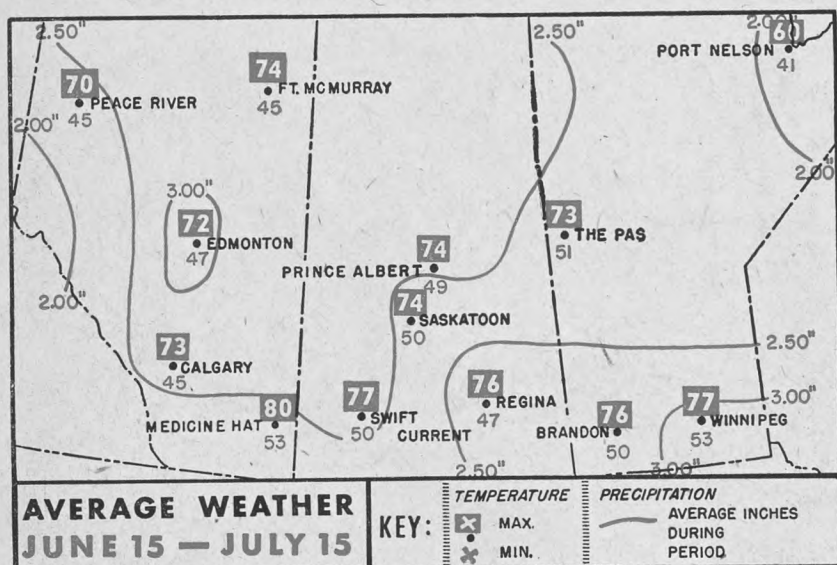


# Prairie Weather

Prepared by DR. IRVING P. KRICK and Staff  
for

THE *Country*  
GUIDE

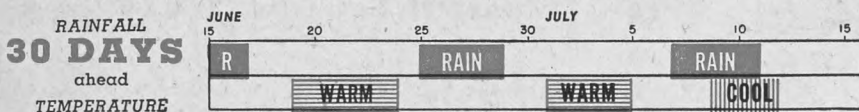
(Allow a day or two either way in using this forecast. It should be 75 per cent right for your area, but not necessarily for your farm.—ed.)



## Alberta

As was the case during the previous thirty days, Alberta experienced a general trend in temperatures from below average to above average during the mid-June to mid-July period last year. Of particular concern to the agricultural interests of this province was the predominance of rather low minimum temperatures in the second half of June. The mid-July weather was associated with extensive heat wave conditions as Medicine Hat recorded a maximum temperature of 102 de-

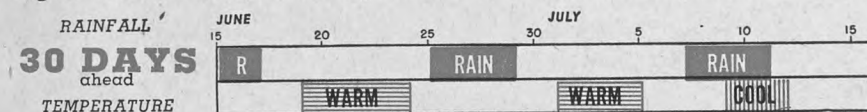
grees on the 13th. Rainfall amounts during this thirty-day period generally equalled or exceeded the long-term average. For this year, Alberta farmers and ranchers may expect mostly cooler and wetter than usual weather to prevail. More frequent easterly winds and an unusual abundance of cloudy weather also appear to be in prospect. Thus, the over-all stimulus to crop and pasture growth will be of a less-than-ideal character, though two important warm intervals are anticipated, and the high temperatures should advance growth at these times. V



## Saskatchewan

Below average temperatures and above average precipitation amounts were recorded in the last two weeks of June and the first week of July last year in Saskatchewan. Thereafter the nature of the temperature regime was considerably different with heat wave conditions being observed, particularly on the 13th and 14th. Several stations reported temperatures of 100 degrees or more on these days, the highest being at Willow Creek, which reported

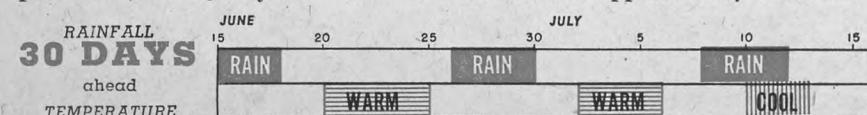
104 on the 13th and 108 on the 14th. Precipitation totals were mostly in excess of the long-term average. During the June 15 to July 15 period of this year, Saskatchewan grain growers may anticipate weather conditions similar to 1953. Rainfall amounts are expected to be above normal, especially during the June portion of the period. Late June's weather also will be characterized by slightly cooler than usual temperatures. In early July, however, significant warming is in prospect, and hot weather should prevail. V



## Manitoba

Last year, Manitoba experienced generally cool and wet weather during this thirty-day interval. It was only during the last several days that a strong, warm influence became important enough to result in predominantly hot weather. Except for a dry spell that was recorded during the second and part of the third weeks, precipitation occurred quite frequently. Thunderstorm activity was particularly strong in July, with many

more than usual being observed in the Winnipeg area. The weather during the mid-June to mid-July period of 1954 will be highlighted by much warmer than usual weather in early July. Additional warm conditions will occur prior to the end of June, also. Both warm spells will materially aid the growth of grains retarded by the late spring planting. As was recorded last year, precipitation amounts will exceed normal over most of Manitoba. Thus, ample moisture for maintaining soil reserves appears likely to occur. V



## He's changing the nation's landscape

You may see the result of what he is doing in the city's changing skyline—or out where the corn grows tall . . . in the mushrooming suburbs—or in the new look of Main Street in a mellow old town.

Where many a vacant lot once stood, he helps fill it with a fine new school. Where you used to see a structure that was an eyesore you may now see a new apartment house, store or other building he played a role in providing.

Thanks in part to him, many houses rise here and there, or row on row, in community after community. New black ribbons of asphalt tie town to town. Somewhere, a new bridge is built.

New industrial plants, too, are sometimes the by-products of his helping hand. Perhaps one of them has provided you with a job.

And do you see those great steel towers that parade across the rolling farmlands, bearing power-laden wires in their outstretched arms? They may be monuments to this same man.

Who is he?

He represents all the millions of life insurance policyholders in Canada. And it's money from their premiums, which life insurance companies invest for them, that makes possible many such improvements as these throughout the nation.

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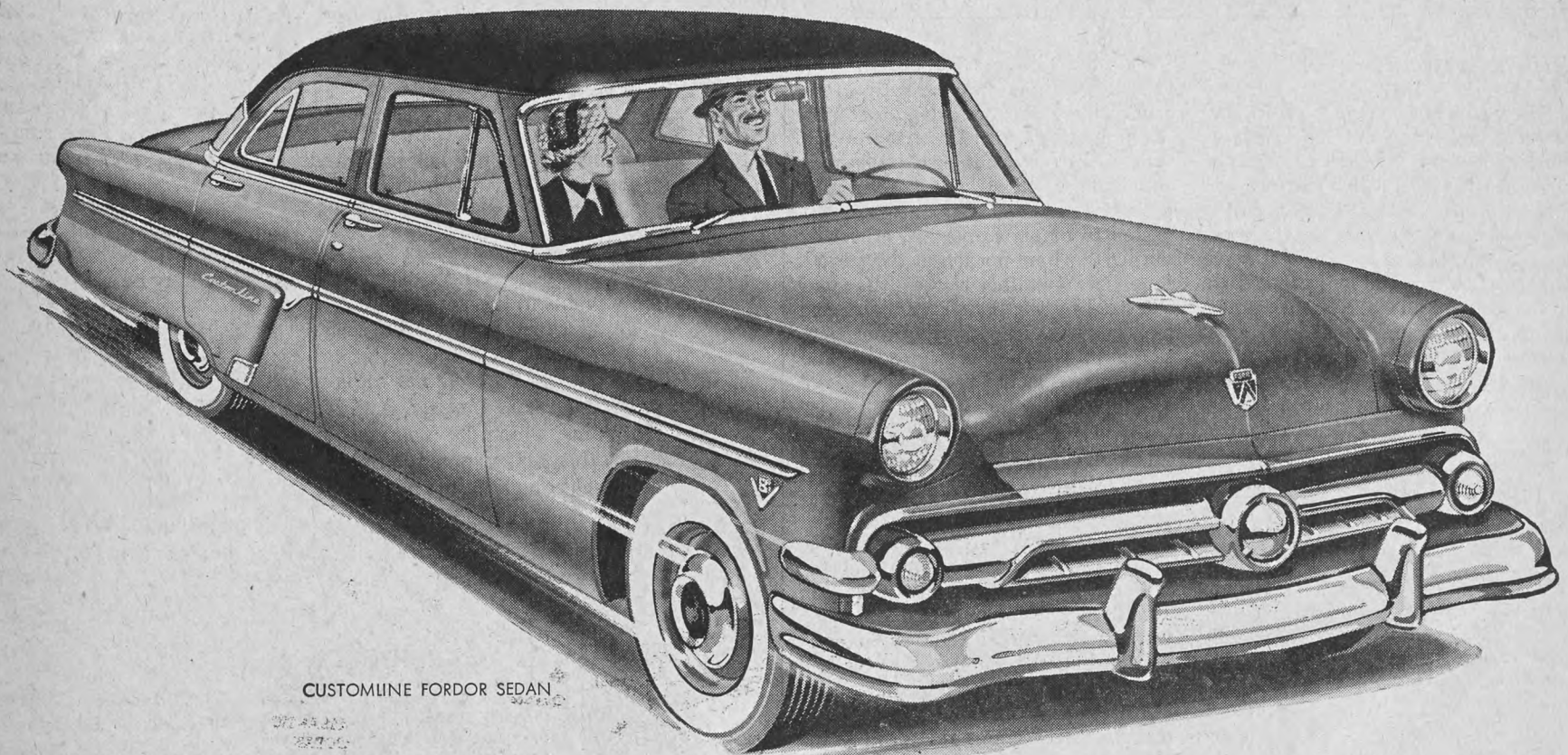
Enjoy the road-hugging "big car" feel of Ford, relax in the comfort of Ford's firmly sprung foam-rubber seats, experience the completely effortless ease of driving that's yours with Ford's modern power features and famous Fordomatic Drive.

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**WORTH MORE TODAY**

**WORTH MORE TOMORROW**



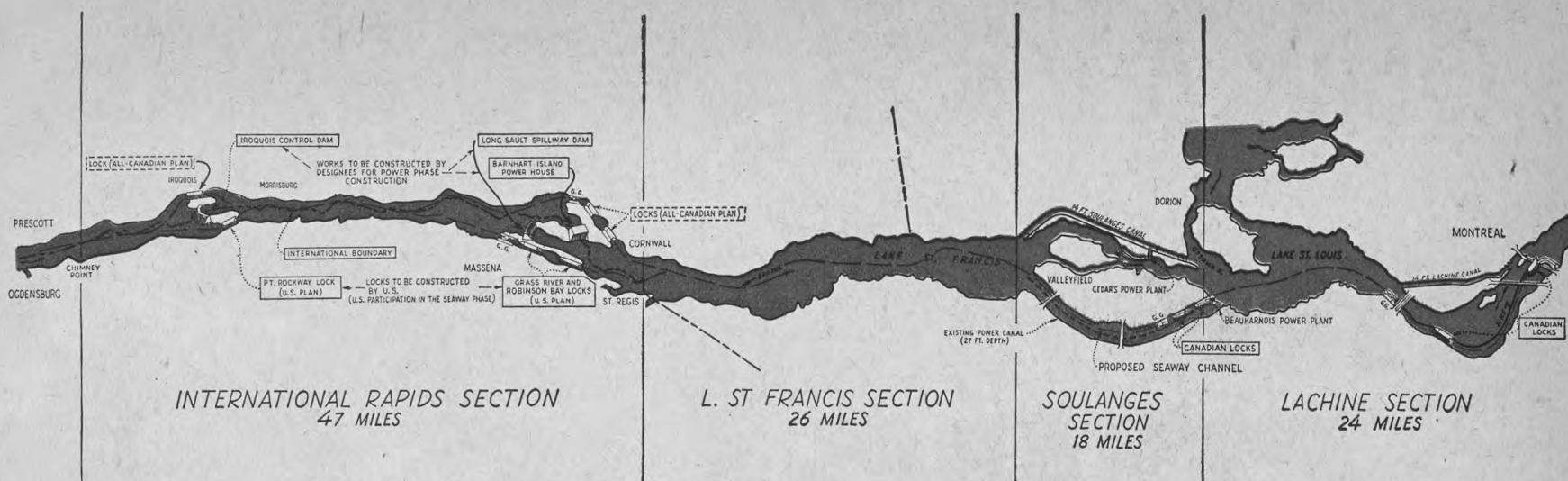
CUSTOMLINE FORDOR SEDAN

(Certain features illustrated or mentioned are "Standard" on some models, available at extra cost on others.)



**YOUR FORD DEALER INVITES YOU TO PROVE FORD ON THE ROAD**





The 115-mile bottleneck in the St. Lawrence, and the projects necessary to permit 27-foot navigation.

# The Seaway at Last:

## What It Is and What It Means

*Two-way cargoes to and from the heart of the continent promise lower transportation costs for prairie farmers*

by RALPH HEDLIN

FOR the last two years the building of the St. Lawrence Seaway has been accepted as fact. Canada announced that if the United States wished to take part, she could; but if she did not, Canada would "go it alone." The United States, faced with this Canadian determination, acted with almost undignified haste. Senate and House of Representatives, the bodies that had been dragging their feet for 35 years, gave their official sanction within two years of the announcement of the Canadian decision.

What is the background of this great Seaway that will allow ocean-going ships to pass through the Atlantic coastal waters and continue westward for 2,000 miles into the heart of the continent, to tie up at Fort William, 602 feet above sea level, and less than 450 miles by airline, from the exact geographical center of North America (Center, North Dakota).

Perhaps one of the first people to be really excited by the prospects offered by the St. Lawrence was Jacques Cartier. In 1535, as his boat breasted the broad river, Cartier thought that he had found a short, westward water route from Europe to the rich markets of the Far East.

By the time the fur traders arrived in strength, Cartier's disappointment had passed into history. The fur traders recognized the St. Lawrence for what it was—a water route to distant western markets and produce—and made the first start on its development for commerce. In 1700, a canal 18 inches deep was constructed around the turbulent rapids near Lachine. By 1783, four short canals, two to three feet in depth, had been built at the Cascades, to avoid the necessity of portaging bateaux around the rapids. Shortly before 1800, the North West Fur Trading Company completed a canal of sorts at Sault Ste. Marie. It is reported to have been nearly 3,000 feet in length, and to have included a lock which raised the water nine feet.

Over 100 years ago, the building of the old Welland Canal to carry navigation around Niagara Falls, and the con-

struction of a series of canals from Montreal to Kingston, permitted nine-foot navigation for steamers and sailing boats from the Atlantic coast to Sault Ste. Marie. Before 1900, locks had been constructed at the Sault, the Welland Canal had been deepened, and the canals along the St. Lawrence dug to their present depth: so that early in this century there was 14-foot navigation from the Atlantic Ocean to the Head of the Lakes.

As the St. Lawrence route was gradually improved the idea was born of a grand assault on the great river. Could locks and canals be built that would permit great steamers to navigate the long 600-foot slope from the Head of the Lakes down to the Atlantic Ocean, or, coming the other way, to climb the long hill that faced them?

THIS was not in any sense an insuperable problem. From an engineering point of view it was not only feasible, but no more difficult, or costly, than much that had already been completed in the St. Lawrence Valley and along the Great Lakes.

Actually, the building of the St. Lawrence Seaway will be the final completion of a job that is largely done. Many years ago the St. Lawrence Ship Canal permitted ships with a draft of 32½ feet to come inland the 1,000 miles to Montreal. Admittedly, the first 900 miles has always been freely

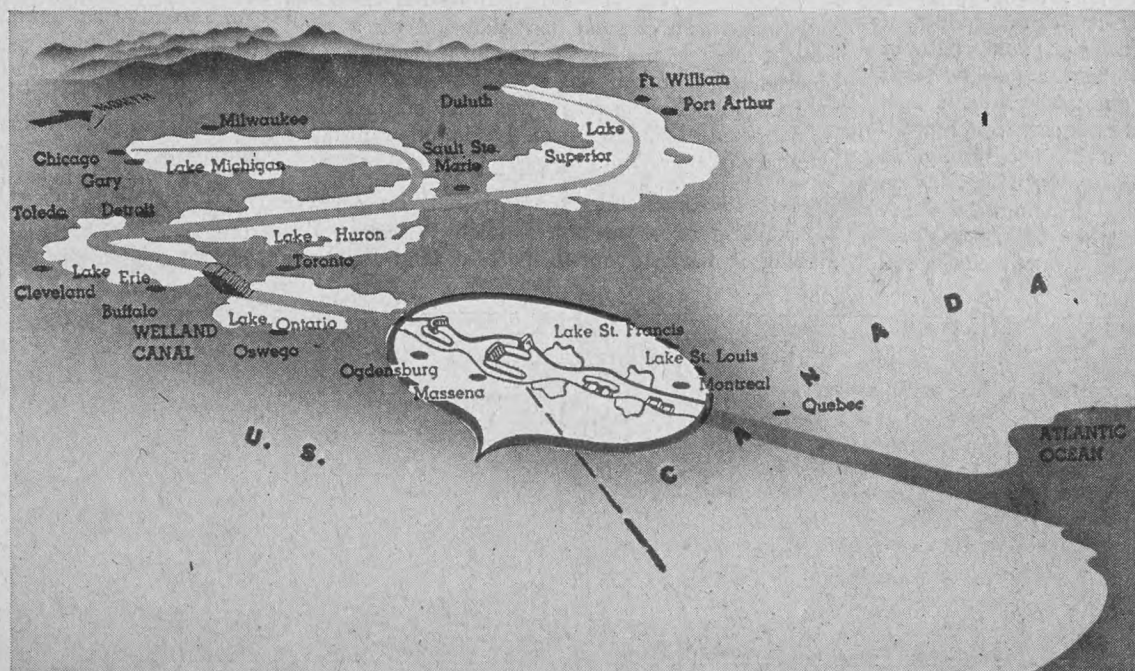
navigable to such ships, but the final 100 miles required extensive and costly works.

The 115 miles between Montreal and Prescott continues today as a bottleneck through which ships with a draft in excess of 14 feet find it impossible to pass. Beyond Prescott is a channel, with a depth of 25 feet downbound, and 21 feet upbound—through the Thousand Islands and the Great Lakes. Part of its channels have been dredged to greater depths, and the Welland Canal locks and the McArthur Lock at Sault Ste. Marie already have depths of 30 feet. The major project remaining in this section therefore, is the dredging of certain channels to a minimum depth of 27 feet.

The political sound and fury of the past quarter century has largely centered on the 115 miles between Montreal and Prescott. To break open this bottleneck will require about 40 miles of canals, seven locks and eight movable bridges, at a combined cost in the neighborhood of \$300,000,000. This is, of course, a large sum, but when it is borne in mind that Canada spent \$132,000,000 on the Welland Canal some 20 years ago, and created scarcely an economic or political ripple, the sum is less alarming. The American share of this cost will be approximately \$105,000,000.

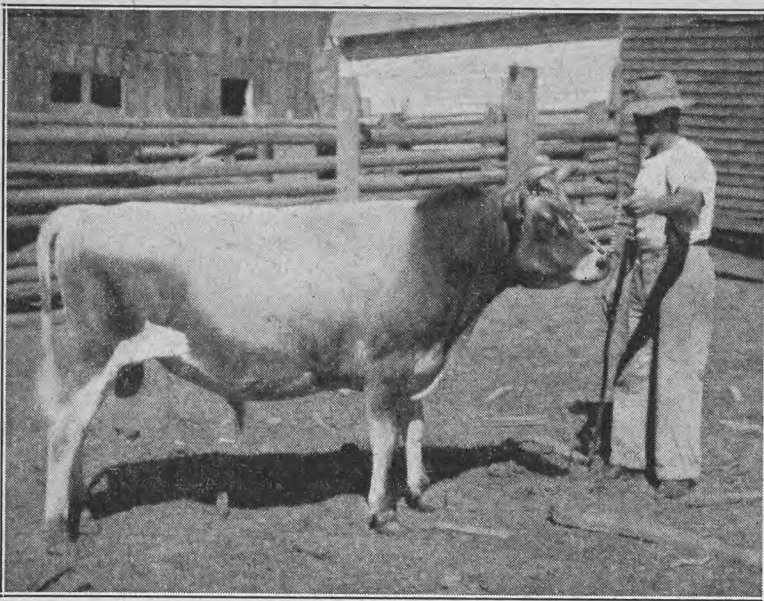
When the figure of about nine hundred million dollars is bandied about, relative to the Seaway, readers of The Country Guide should recollect that this includes the development of great quantities of hydro power by the province of Ontario and the state of New York, at an estimated cost of \$300,000,000 to each. The power, although of vital importance to the St. Lawrence Valley, and so, presumably, to the whole of Canada, will not be dealt with here, except to mention that it will be developed, and is of overwhelming importance to power-hungry industrial Ontario.

A NUMBER of questions immediately come to mind when the Seaway is discussed. Why was it decided on now, when decision has been so long postponed? What will be the chief importance of the Seaway? Will it reduce the costs of shipping grain to sea- (Please turn to page 66)

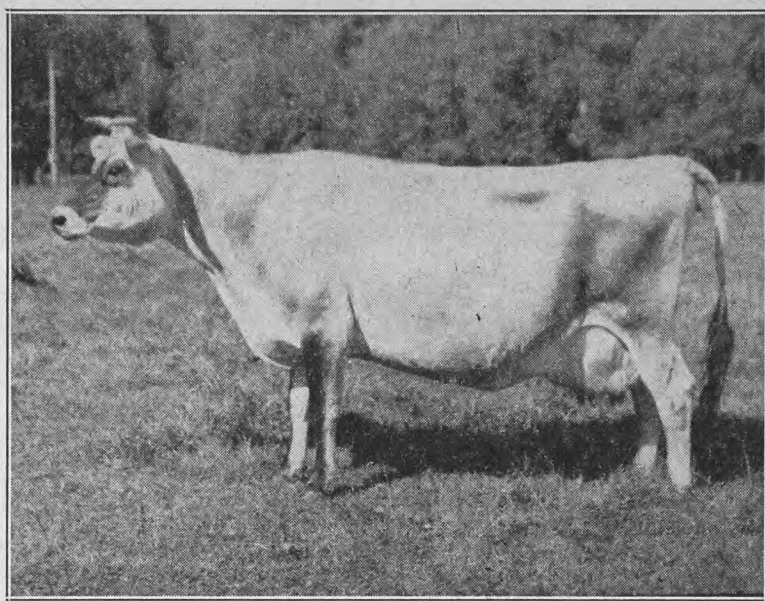


A bird's-eye view of the route from Fort William to the Atlantic, with the St. Lawrence below Montreal expanded to show details. The "stairs" in center left, are the Welland Canal locks past Niagara Falls.





Harry Standen holds Handen Farm Madame's Eli (the present herd sire) in 1951, when he was Junior Champion at Saanich and Cowichan.



Now 14 years old, Mayfield It's Sylvia holds an honored place on Handen Farm as a Gold Medal cow, classified as Excellent.

# Success at Handen Farm

A WHITE house on the cottonwood-lined banks of the Koksilah River is home to the Standens of Handen Jersey Farm, Cowichan Station, Vancouver Island. North of the house the narrow stream valley opens to a floodplain of rich delta silt, where sleek Jerseys of their registered herd graze knee-deep in river-irrigated pasture. It is a satisfying picture—especially to a former city couple who insist that they never intended to farm.

Times were bad in the thirties, when Harry and Pearl Standen decided to move out into the country a few miles, to bolster a dwindling pay cheque with a bit of part-time farming. Before they'd had the farm a year, the farm had them. Times can never be good enough now to lure them back to the city.

Their success formula includes the standard essentials of hard work, good land, and good management. To this can be added the co-operation and enthusiasm of each member of the family, which are more or less essentials too. Fifteen-year-old Joan Standen and her 12-year-old sister, Susan, have become livestock fans through an accumulated 12 years of active 4-H club work. Their training has made them expert stock handlers, able to lend an experienced hand during the busy fall fair season. Mrs. Standen is a 4-H club leader, and, in her husband's words, "always on hand when she's needed for any job on the farm."

Quiet-spoken Harry Standen was born in Cambridge, England, of a family that has had close connection with the agricultural industry for generations. One of his great-uncles was an equipment manufacturer, and used to turn out counterparts of those old steam tractors that were a familiar sight hooting and puffing across our prairies years ago. In England, Harry's cousins still carry on a well-known agricultural implement business today. In addition to their farming interests, Harry's own family ran a large livery stable. Although he didn't actually farm in his younger years, Harry was certainly no stranger to livestock, a fact which stood him in good stead when he finally decided to farm.

STANDEN emigrated to Canada in the boom years of the 1920's, and landed in Victoria in December, 1927. A few years later he met Pearl Hancock there, and in 1936 they were married in the Coast Capital's imposing Christ Church Cathedral. Things were still pretty slack at that time, so the Standens

*Hard work, family co-operation, purebred Jerseys, grass and irrigation make things go for this Vancouver Island family who never intended to farm*

by C. V. FAULKNER

decided to buy a few acres in nearby Saanich, where they could have a vegetable garden and a cow to help out with the living expenses.

"We didn't intend to start a farm," Harry recalls with a smile, "but that first cow was the foundation of our present dairy herd."

The foundation proved to be a sound one. Today, the Standen herd numbers about 60 animals all told, of which 38 to 40 are milking cows. The remainder includes three or four top quality bulls, plus assorted young stock. Just about all of the herd go back to the original Golden Standard.

Last year Standen's yearling bull, Eastwood Rondin's Freshie, was reserve junior champion at both Cowichan and Saanich fall fairs. The herd sire, Handen Farm Madame's Eli, was junior champion at the same shows in 1951. One cow, Laurium Cid's Cicely, was grand champion, and later classified as "excellent." In all, the Standen herd took ten silver trophies that season. If further proof of the herd's bloodlines was needed, the sire's dam's full brother has been rated highest in Canada for the past two years.

As breeders of registered cattle, the Standens had to have an original herd name. After a good deal of head scratching they came up with a combination of Standen, and Mrs. Standen's maiden name, Hancock. The result was Handen, and their farm became Handen Farm. Just another instance of family co-operation.

BY 1949 the Standens found that the postwar building boom on the Saanich Peninsula was making it hard to obtain pasture land for their

expanding herd. It was a case of increasing their per-acre carrying capacity, or moving to another location. But increased forage production would mean liberal doses of irrigation water, and water supplies were limited in Saanich. In June of that year the Standens sold their place and moved the herd up-Island to the Cowichan Valley, a distance of about 25 miles.

Their new location had all that was lacking in the old. One hundred acres of land, plenty of broad shade trees, and the Koksilah River, with its "green promise" of lush pastures over the dry summer months.

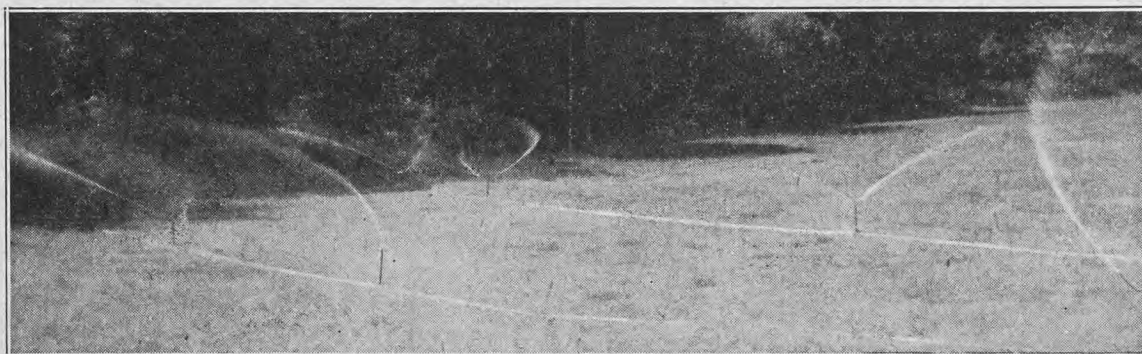
One would think that green pastures would pose no problem in the rain-forest areas of the B.C. Coast, but annual rainfall figures can be very deceiving. Figures on effective rainfall—that which lands on the fields during the crop growing season—tell a different story. Of the yearly average of about 35 inches for the Cowichan Valley, over 30 inches falls in the winter months, and is lost to the farmer as it drains off rapidly into the sea. During July and August, Cowichan has been known to receive less rain than some of the semi-desert sectors of the B.C. interior, which report an annual rainfall of less than ten inches. Successful farms on southern Vancouver Island are those that have water available when they need it. Harry Standen wasn't just interested in scenery when he chose a farm bordering on a river.

The Standens soon had an irrigation system going on their bottom lands. A ten h.p. electric motor was installed in the pump house on the river bank, to carry the extra load; and water was distributed over the fields by portable steel pipes. Results that first season proved that it pays to irrigate, even on the B.C. coast.

In a two-acre field of corn (Northwest Dent) the stalks attained a height of from 14 to 16 feet with only one watering, and yielded up to 60 tons of silage. Four applications of water during the summer doubled the carrying capacity of the pastures.

"We have just about doubled our yields on everything since we started to irrigate," Harry said with satisfaction.

The Standens picked a memorable year for their move to Cowichan. That winter the normally mild Island climate went on a freezing spree, which lasted a month and a half. The river was (Please turn to page 43)



The Koksilah River, which runs along one side of Handen Farm, has made Handen Farm possible, through the magic of water and the use of sprinkler irrigation.

[Guide Photos



# Cupid and The Carefree Lady

"I WONDER," Liz Martin said wistfully, "if Susan likes Camp Carefree?" Bob Martin grunted wisely. "Susie's young, Ma. Other young folks—and Professor Boggles' way of life—it'll drive the idea of marrying that young whipper-snapper, Wilson, right out of her mind—or I'm far wrong."

"Steve is a nice boy, though," Mrs. Martin defended, almost wistfully.

"Twenty-three!" said Bob Martin explosively. "And she's eighteen! Why, they're just kids—both of them—"

"I was just seventeen and you—"

"I know, I know, Liz." Bob shifted his bulk comfortably on the rocker. "But people grew up faster in those days. Why, when I was sixteen I was doing a man's work—knew all about care and responsibility." Bob Martin blew a contented ring of pipe smoke. "Anyway, Liz, the way I see it, Susie's good enough for a doctor or a lawyer—not a muskrat farmer!" Around Paddle Valley, they'd never heard of muskrat farming until Steve bought the old Sim's marsh and stocked it.

The wistful note crept back into Mrs. Martin's voice. "You can be very much in love when you're eighteen. I'm afraid before she's back here a week, she'll be staring for hours on end at that marsh again."

In rare humor, old Bob patted her arm.

"Ma, for a woman you don't know much about your sex. You and me—Liz, when we were courtin'—well," said Bob modestly, "they never made a couple like us since! Girls like Susie—these days, it's a new man every week. I'll be far wrong if she doesn't spend her time mooning over some city man she met on her holiday . . ."

He was far wrong.

SUSIE came home a week later—a day early. In sandals and slacks, she swung swiftly along the edge of the marsh to their old farm. Lithe and suntanned, shining with good spirits—the first glad look delighted the marriage-worried parents. The calf look was gone from her eyes, Bob nodded, and immediately thought a little more tolerantly of Steve Wilson.

"Baby!" Mrs. Martin cried, as they embraced. "Why didn't you let us know? Pa would have taken the car—"

"For a mere seven miles?" Susan said gaily. "Mother, we're becoming helpless. Our people are no longer healthy." She closed her eyes, balanced back on her heels. "Daddy, Mom—at Camp Carefree, I met the most simply wonderful man—"

Mrs. Martin stared at her husband. Bob winked significantly.

"He's married and has a grown family—"

*Susan Martin returned from summer camp with her mind full of ideas, not all of them pertaining to love and marriage*

by JOHN PATRICK GILLESE



Mrs. Martin sat down feebly. Bob gasped weakly for air.

"Oh, it's not that!" Susan smiled belittlingly. "Far too much of our time is spent in love and mushiness as you often said, Father. I can see your viewpoint at last. The man I'm talking about is Professor Boggles—the girls call him Old Bogey. And do you know what he says accounts for us becoming a race of physical weaklings?"

Neither of the dazed parents had the faintest idea.

"Not enough walking!" said Susan, her jaw jutting out in a dangerous imitation of her father's. "In the old days, men and women of seventy walked ten miles to church. The old pioneers—why you told me this yourself, Father—walked sixty miles for mail and groceries and lived to be ninety. Walking keeps you physically fit, mentally alert. It develops your resistance to disease, tonics our nervous system and binds families together. If only more families took long walks together, divorce would disappear, juvenile delinquency would be no more, childbirth would be as simple as among the savages of Africa, the old social spirit would return—"

Bob Martin looked at his wife, and neither spoke. Susie finished simply.

"We're going to try it, Dad—all of us—"

"I got enough walking to do on this farm now—" Bob began, but Susie cut him short.

"Father! Now that you've rented it on shares, you can do the things you always wanted to! But how can you if you're not in shape? And what's more," said Susie, "I'm going over to invite Steve—he spends entirely too much time thinking about muskrats. He's always sitting there, watching them. You'd think that he was in love with them, or something."

She went over the next morning, taking the short cut across the goose grass and sluggish, floating weed-beds. The ozone of summer shimmered across the cat-tails and the warm ooze that smelled, oddly, like lilacs in springtime. She came back half an hour later, sniffing. No Steve with her.

"We'll walk by ourselves," Susie announced, tossing her head. "The muskrat farmer's planting something for baby muskrats and can't take time off to walk, he says. He also told me a dude camp had

put the craziest ideas into my little head, which never contained too many weighty matters at any time. He can go take a jump in the muskrat marsh, for all I care!"

Bob Martin stared. It was incredible that any one could say that to Susan. He and Liz had waited so long for a child that when Susie finally came, she was his boss, pure and simple. He had long ago ceased even to worry about parental discipline. But now, suddenly, he began to have a sneaking admiration for young Wilson.

"So who cares?" Susie sniffed again. "New interests have come into my ratty little life."

Remembering her tears and pleadings of a bare two weeks ago—the one outstanding time Bob hadn't yielded to filial entreaties—an uneasy fear gripped him.

"Nonsense," he said, to Liz, while Susan slipped away for some raisins—to eat on the hike. "We ought to humor her a little, Mother—she'll soon get over Boggles, too, or I'm far wrong."

Susan returned; and the life of unreality began.

It continued the next morning when Susan dug them out of comfortable beds to enjoy what she called a leisurely stroll. The ardent disciple of Professor Boggles, wanted to start at sunrise—before breakfast. But Bob, (Please turn to page 51)



Illustrated by J. H. Petrie



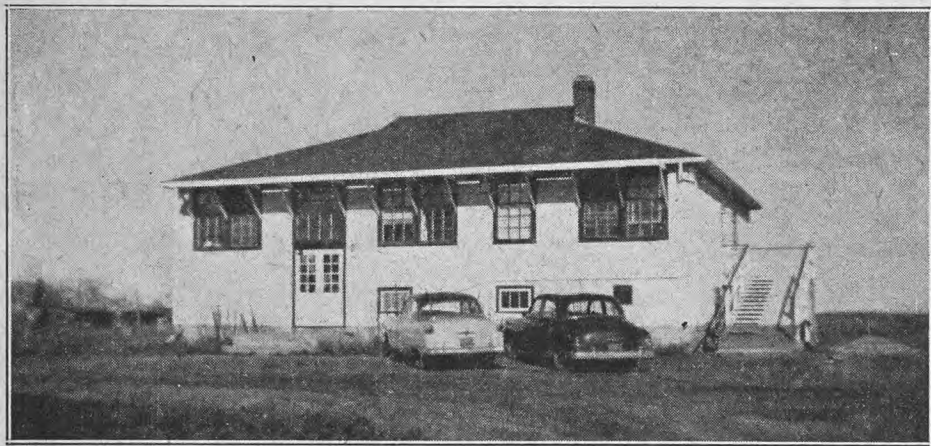
Susan came home. In sandals and slacks she swung along the edge of the marsh to the old farm.





*This is the modern 34-bed hospital at Virden, Manitoba (population 1,064), which serves a wide area.*

# The Rural Hospital — *From the Inside*



*This Medical Nursing Unit at Baldur, Man., accommodates six to ten patients.*



*Memorial Hospital at Glenboro, Man.*

*How small country hospitals look to one who knows them, both as visitor and patient*

by JOHN JACKSON

**I** ONLY went in for a few days, but by the time the fifth day came, I was sure that I would be in for many weeks. I know also that I might just as well settle down to enjoy my stay, and endeavor very soon to attain the status given it locally, the "Memorial Hospital." What should one expect in such a place?

Hospital life was really no new thing to me. In my boyhood days I was a frequent visitor to one of the big city hospitals in the north of England: with its forbidding stone stairways, and tiled or flagged floors, it was cold, harsh and austere. Within recent years hospitals have again claimed me for several weeks on two occasions, marking mile-posts in my career. These, however, were city hospitals, with almost all that modern medical science could furnish in skill and equipment. This time it was a small country hospital that sheltered me. Indeed, it hardly ranked officially, as more than a nursing home, but aspired very soon to attain the status given it locally, the "Memorial Hospital." What should one expect in such a place?

What must I take with me? Well, don't be too fussy about clothing. The hospital often provides most of the things you need. Bring toilet requirements, a pair of slippers and such; and a dressing gown, or kimono, wouldn't come amiss. Make sure you bring your Blue Cross card. It's magic in a hospital. Some of your favorite reading would be fine, but don't load yourself down with too much.

They keep some on hand for you. Good, warm clothes for leaving are fine.

One of the first things you may notice is the camaraderie, the friendly comradeship of the local hospital. The Doc? Well, you know him already! Why, one fall when he was in high school, didn't he help your dad in harvest time when men were scarce, and didn't your Uncle Bill play ball on the same team? Sure! And the nurses? While the Matron is a registered nurse from another district, the afternoon, night, and the relief nurses, are probably local folks who have a special aptitude and some training and experience for this type of work, and a willingness to devote themselves to it. What they may lack in training—the further training necessary to complete a degree—they make up in part by the depth of the interest taken in the welfare of their patients. Time and time again, I saw the nurse stay one to two hours after her regular hours of duty, to assist in general routine, and see to the comfort of her patients.

**O**NE of the first things which may happen to you is a bath. That, of course, is standard procedure. Three years ago, a niece of mine, who, for years, was receptionist at the Luton-Dunstable Hospital, a big, beautiful institution on the edge of the English countryside about 30 miles from London, was called back to work one evening unexpectedly. The phone rang, asking her to return. "We will send the car for

you," was the message. George Bernard Shaw was being admitted to the hospital with a broken hip, and she was in charge of receptions. Of course, the nurse followed procedure and gave him a bath, and he asked her to give him a certificate that she had given him a bath. "If you don't," he said, "there'll be another nurse along in five minutes to give me another." They had a lot of fun with the great musical critic—later literary critic—still later political critic—and still later just critic. He certainly kept them entertained with the unexpected. So don't think that it is because the nurse thinks you are exceptionally dirty that she invites you to a bath—it's just "the thing to do." Each evening, also, and maybe once during the day, she comes along with a bottle of alcohol. But don't be alarmed, she knows where to put it, and rubs it on your back. That, of course, is to keep your back from getting sore. About 6:00 o'clock in the morning, just when your sleep seems to be about the sweetest, she arrives with a basin of lovely warm water, reaches for your towel, washcloth and soap (perfumed), and suggests that you wash your hands and face, including, of course, your neck and behind your ears. Breakfast follows at 7:00, dinner about 11:30, and supper at 5:00, with snacks in between and before retiring for the night.

That raises the question of food. What kind of meals do you get? I am (Please turn to page 45)





Self-pollination produced the alfalfa seed in the lower row; cross-pollination produced that in the upper row, more than 13 times as much.

# Alfalfa Seed From Busy Bees

*Producing alfalfa seed without bees is no easier than producing wheat without rain*

by OSCAR BODVIG

**I**N every country in which alfalfa is grown, the production of seed presents a problem. Small fields, surrounded by natural wooded areas, in the northern settlements of the four western provinces, have produced up to 1,000 pounds of seed per acre, and yields of 200 to 500 pounds have been common. However, in many areas yields have not been maintained. High seed yields in northern Saskatchewan increased acreages between 1930 and 1940, and since 1940 yields have reduced sharply.

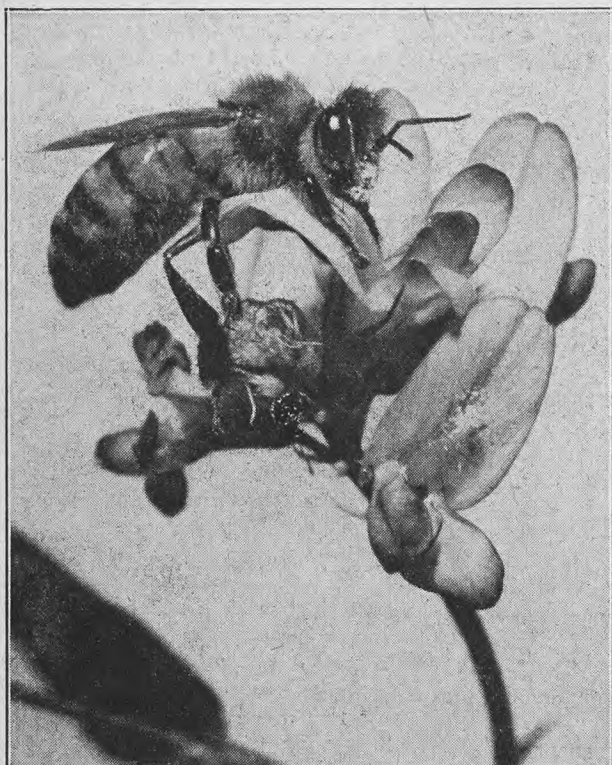
Production declines have resulted, in large part, from larger fields serviced by smaller concentrations of bees. Thorough investigation has established that before an alfalfa flower will produce seed it must be "tripped." The flower reproductive organs in the staminal column are held under tension within the two petals that make up the keel. Anything, such as the visit of certain species of bees, that separates these petals where they join in the keel and allows the staminal column to spring out and strike the "standard," which faces it in the flower, is likely to increase the seed set.

The seed set will be much greater if tripping is done by a bee, than if it is done by wind, rain or other mechanical agents. A thin membrane that covers the stigma is torn when the flower is tripped, and this permits pollen tubes to penetrate the stigma and fertilize the ovules, or embryo seeds. The bee carries pollen which it has picked up on other alfalfa flowers and this cross-fertilizes the plant. With mechanically tripped flowers that self-fertilize, less than a quarter form any seed pod at all; and of this quarter, an average of less than two seeds are formed per pod, although alfalfa flowers contain 12 to 14 ovules. With cross-fertilization, as accomplished by bees, many more pods are formed with more seeds in each pod. The conclusion is inescapable that a large population of bees is essential for a heavy set of alfalfa seed.

**T**HE prospective grower should not be content to place a large number of honey bee hives in his field, and so hope to produce a lot of seed. Investigators are unanimous in (Please turn to page 44)

*Left: The bumblebee normally goes over the top and trips and cross-pollinates the flower.*

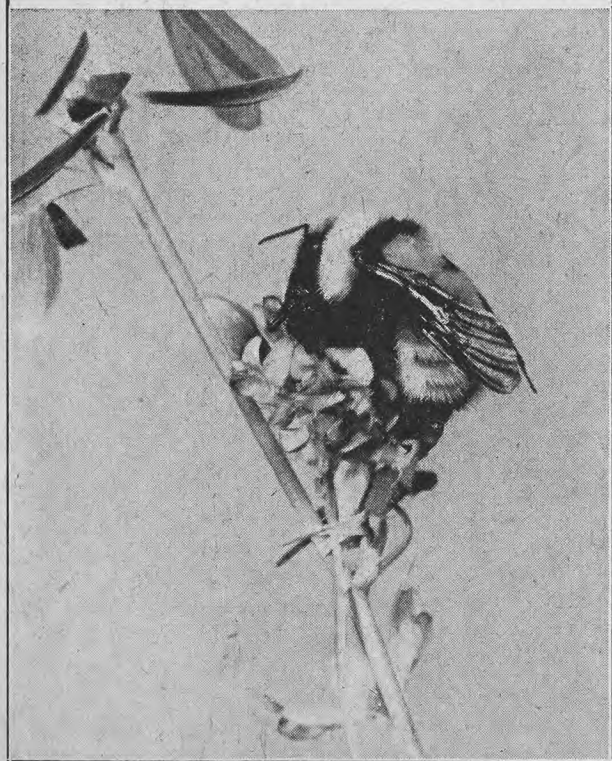
*Right: The leaf-cutter bee, going in over the top, also trips and cross-pollinates the flower.*



*The honey bee will occasionally go over the keel of the alfalfa flower and trip it as it does above.*



*This honey bee entering the flower from the side, as above, in search of nectar, causes little tripping.*





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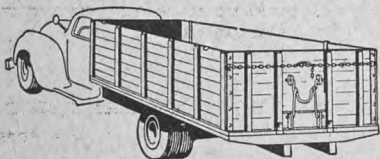
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## Under the Peace Tower

by HUGH BOYD

WHATEVER shape the St. Lawrence Seaway scheme may come to take, now that the United States government is actively committed to build the navigation works in the international rapids section, the great project does seem to be on the eve of getting under way at last. In Ottawa, there is mingled relief and exasperation: relief that the most formidable opposition within the U.S. has been overcome; exasperation over the long delay which preceded the action of Congress. It was this delay that prompted Canada to decide to build the whole of the remaining major navigation works alone, and the more this plan was studied, the more attractive it appeared. In recent months, many Canadians came to like it so well that they hoped Congress would never act.

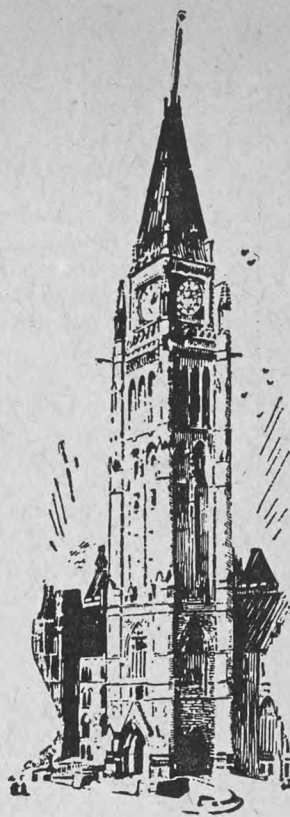
Even now, the possibility of an all-Canadian route from Lake Erie to the Gulf is being discussed quite seriously, with the U.S. building separate canals in an important, but relatively short section, if it so desires. The separate locks at the Soo are often mentioned as a precedent.

The feeling here would likely have been quite different had the original 1941 agreement (now defunct) been approved by Congress about 1950 or 1951. Partnership was then taken for granted. It would have been welcomed by this country with enthusiasm, instead of with reserve.

All this time, of course, Ottawa has enjoyed the co-operation of successive administrations at Washington. While Congress dallied, the two governments were able to agree on steps that brought the combined navigation and power scheme much closer. Once major decisions were reached by the International Joint Commission as to raising water levels, and by the U.S. Federal Power Commission for the licensing of an American agency for development of power, and the American courts were given a chance to dispose of the last objections, it no longer really much mattered whether Congress wished to come in or not. For, step by step, Canada was being placed in a position to build the seaway. That is, it could do so, once the last legal obstacle was removed from the construction of the dams for power in the international rapids section. Neither Canada alone, nor Canada and the U.S., either in partnership, or separately, could do much with the power phase unsettled.

The assumption now is that a fairly early start on both power and navigation is in prospect. The people in this part of the country are beginning to look ahead to the industrial transformation that seems almost bound to come about with the seaway—and power. The effects presumably will be felt not only along the St. Lawrence valley, but far into the hinterland. The seaway will accelerate a process of industrialization already remarkable in the most thickly settled part of Ontario.

WHETHER this will all turn out for the national good remains to be seen. In this respect, however, the



spread of industry is already causing some uneasiness. Agricultural land is being invaded. And the trouble is that much of it, far from being marginal, may be irreplaceable. This is particularly true of the Niagara Peninsula. Some might argue that the orchards now being cut down are worth more to the nation than the factories arising where they flourished.

For example, the fruit farmers of Saltfleet township are stoutly resisting a move by the city of Hamilton to annex 2,650 acres of choice land. However the fight ends, it points up a problem which is being studied by both federal and provincial agricultural authorities. They are aware that acreages in cherries, grapes, peaches, pears and plums in the Niagara region have slipped back from the high points achieved about 1951. Yet, the population of Canada is growing, and with it a market for fruits. Many of these can't be grown just anywhere, but the promoters of an urban civilization in southern Ontario seem little bothered, as yet, by the implications of what they are doing.

This question of the destruction of previous fruit land is part of a larger one, which had public attention recently from Dr. J. W. Watson, director, Geographical Branch, Federal Department of Mines and Technical Surveys. Addressing a national community planning conference at Toronto, he spoke of the "tragic competition" between the city and the farmer for the use of land, and declared there is "no greater fallacy" than that there is lots of land in Canada. While he singled out the Niagara fruit belt for a special warning, Dr. Watson said there were other parts of the country, ideally suited to crop production, also in danger from the onward march of urban development.

The coming of the St. Lawrence Seaway will probably throw these problems into sharper focus. It is just as well that some thoughtful men are aware of them, and offering the sound counsel that factories and apartment projects, so far as possible, should be confined to non-productive land. But will their voices be heard? V



## Report From Rome

by JACQUES SODERINI  
and J. A. ANDERSON

More radios per acre. The farmer and his radio was the general subject of discussion before a study group meeting near Rome at the beginning of May. Sponsored by the Italian government in collaboration with the Organization for European Economic Co-operation and the U.S. Foreign Operations Agency, the meeting was attended by delegates from most European countries, and the possibilities for the increased use of radio in agriculture were discussed. During the course of the discussions the Italian Agriculture Minister, Giuseppe Medici, spoke of the benefits radio brought to the farmer by the dissemination of up-to-date agricultural news and, psychologically, by reducing any feeling of isolation in rural areas. ✓

**Too much wine.** Wine consumption in Europe has increased since the war, but not as much as production, says a U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization report. Spain and France are particularly concerned about growing surpluses. The greater availability of soft drinks is one reason put forward by F.A.O., for wine consumption not increasing as it might. ✓

**Protein malnutrition.** For centuries, protein malnutrition has been a stealthy killer of young children in many parts of Asia, Africa and South America, but it is only comparatively recently that the full extent and seriousness of this type of diet deficiency has been realized. Previously the deaths were attributed to a variety of digestive disorders. The real killer was not exposed until two years ago, when a report on the subject was drawn up by Professor J. F. Brock of the World Health Organization and Dr. M. Autret of F.A.O. The two international organizations are continuing their investigations and are endeavoring to overcome the economic, sociological and agricultural problems that hinder the introduction of a protein-stronger diet, including more meat, fish, milk and soybeans—into the needy areas. ✓

**Hail insurance, Italian style.** Hail insurance is generally accepted as a means of making farming less of a gamble, but in Italy hail insurance may be itself something of a gamble. One Italian insurance organization claiming to be the country's biggest underwriter of hail insurance policies, has an interesting method of attracting new clients. Not only do the organization's hail policies afford protection from losses from hailstorms, but they also entitle the policy holder to a chance to win a prize. This year's prizes just announced consist of 50 head of oxen and "numerous consolation prizes." ✓

## World Grain In 1953

World bread grains to the amount of 258 million short tons are estimated to have been produced in 1953, or within two per cent of the all-time record production in 1952. World wheat production was placed at 7,150,000,000 bushels, or 145 million bushels more than the record harvest of 1952. ✓

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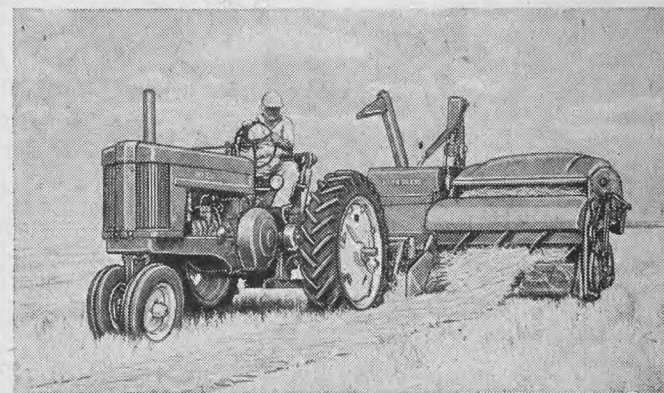
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In the large picture above you see the big John Deere No. 55 Self-Propelled Combine. Notice that the operator's platform is located up out of dust and away from engine heat. The platform allows full visibility. In the small picture above you see the No. 65, the big-capacity, pull-type twin of the No. 55. The No. 65 is a one-man combine, completely controlled from the tractor seat.



Here is a full-width, straight-through John Deere 25 working in windrows. Notice the windrow spreader which spreads the windrow over the full width of the platform. The belt-pickup shown in all three illustrations has a fine-tooth combing action which picks up all windrows gently and cleanly with a minimum of shattering.

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## NEWS OF AGRICULTURE



Television is here, and this picture shows Bob Patterson's *Telestory Time* in progress. CBWT, Winnipeg, telecast its first program at 8:00 p.m., May 31.

### Horse Co-op Will Appeal

NOT long ago the income tax appeal board rendered a decision against Canadian Co-operative Processors Limited, Swift Current, which was established about ten years ago to help get rid of the very large number of surplus horses roaming the prairie provinces, and dispose of them as meat, largely to foreign countries. The decision characterized the Co-operative as "a co-operative in name only and not in reality." L. A. Doan, president of Canadian Co-operative Processors, announced that a formal application for an appeal will be made to the Exchequer Court of Canada.

What made the decision of the Income Tax Appeal Board of more than usual interest were comments by R. S. W. Fordham, a member of the Board, who stated that he could not agree that there was a surplus horse problem in 1944. He also referred to "the ruthless and callous procedure followed by the co-operative in slaughtering horses."

Mr. Doan, in his statement announcing that a special meeting of the directors of the Co-op was to be held in Swift Current on May 25, said that since 1944 the organization had undertaken its activities in the true spirit of the Co-operative Act of Saskatchewan. He added that the horses were handled in the most humane manner under the health regulations of the federal Department of Agriculture. "I regret," he is reported as saying, "that such comments were included in the judgment, because they will be distasteful to the 37,000 farmer and rancher members of the Co-operative."

### Air Transport To Help Africans

A PART of French Equatorial Africa known as Chad Territory and lying almost in the exact geographical center of the continent, has always been held back by distances and lack of communication. The people are part Negro and part Arab and live a nomadic and pastoral life.

Cattle constitute the major source of agricultural income in the Territory, which is now being given accessibility to the outside by means of five airlines. In time, Fort Lamy, the capital of the Territory, may become a

meat packing center. A modern slaughterhouse and refrigerating plant is now under construction, and the airlines are available to carry the meat to coastal areas, where the fatal animal illness, tripanosomiasis, carried by the tsetse fly, makes cattle raising impracticable.

The first effort to carry meat to market by air from the Chad was in 1947, by a veterinarian who is the territorial director of animal husbandry. He and some associates flew out three tons of fresh lamb as a Christmas present to the Governor-General of French Equatorial Africa. The following year, with the assistance of a native society, they shipped out 40 tons to market, and in 1952 and 1953, private airlines handled 2,100 tons. The new slaughterhouse at Fort Lamy will pack 6,000 tons a year.

Meanwhile, attempts are being made to protect the four million cattle in the territory from disease, and to improve the quality. Two research stations also have been set up in the cotton belt in the southern part of the territory, but in the north the hump-backed Zebu cattle raised there are the object of attempts to increase maturity in four years instead of six. In the south, peasant farming demands an all-purpose animal and improvement is being carried out on the N'dama, or African Shorthorn.

### Condition of Thailand Farmers

THAILAND lies in southeast Asia, north of the Malayan peninsula and west of Indo-China. There, FAO experts, co-operating with the Ministry of Agriculture of Thailand, made a survey of 6,794 farm families to determine the economic conditions under which they live. The average family was found to have about ten acres of arable land, of which a little less than 80 per cent could be used for productive purposes. Eighty-nine per cent of Thailand's farmers own their own farms and average farm family debt amounted to only 2.69 per cent of the total assets of the family. The unit of money is the "baht," worth about 47 cents on the "free" market, and average gross income was about \$2,650 of which about \$1,000 was cash farm income and the balance equally divided between the value of farm-consumed products, and non-farm revenue.



## NEWS OF AGRICULTURE

Is Butter  
In Surplus?

NOT long ago the Federal Minister of Agriculture, the Hon. James G. Gardiner, said that Canada had no surpluses of farm products except grains. Nevertheless, on May 5, the Agricultural Prices Support Board began to offer its 33-million-pound butter stockpile in carload lots, delivered to the trade in Ontario, Quebec, the Maritimes and British Columbia at two and one-half cents less per pound than it had paid for it. This loss on each pound of butter so sold does not take into account the cost of storage during the winter of 1953-54, or the cost of freight which the government pays. This, however, is not the first time such price reductions have been made.

Government policy, to which it is committed until May 1, 1955, makes it possible for the Agricultural Prices Support Board to take over any surplus offered by the wholesale trade at the end of the flush summer season, at 58 cents per pound. Normally, it has disposed of this butter at 61 cents per pound as demand for butter developed during the winter and spring months. The Minister has contended that some 25 million pounds of butter are required to keep the "pipeline" filled between the manufacturing creameries and the consumer. A 33-million-pound holding on May 1 would, therefore, suggest a surplus of around 8 million pounds at the beginning of the normal pasture season.

Milk production in 1953 was up about six per cent over the previous year and, of the total milk produced, about 46 per cent went into butter production. Cow numbers have increased about four per cent, and with a favorable summer grazing season, 1954 milk production could register a still further gain. Last year Canadians still ate 19.3 pounds of butter, as compared with 8.6 pounds in the United States, but the chances are that Canadian per capita consumption will tend to decrease rather than increase unless prices should drop very sharply. The government may therefore desire to take its loss as soon as possible and reduce its holdings to well below the 25-million-pound pipeline requirement, if it can do so without lowering the price too far for the good of the dairy industry. ✓

You Take  
Your Choice

MEALS prepared at home are cheaper than those purchased ready to serve. This is no news to farm wives, but home economists of the U.S. Department of Agriculture report that while the ready-to-serve meals require only one-quarter as much time to prepare, they cost more than one-third more money. Two trained home economists made the tests—one working in the laboratory, and the other in her own home kitchen. Meals in each case were for a family of four, including two children, and over a period of two days. For one day, the home-prepared meals cost \$4.90 and required 5.5 hours to prepare. Ready-to-serve meals cost \$6.70 and took 1.6 hours to prepare. Partially prepared meals cost \$5.80 and took 3.1 hours to prepare. ✓

Record  
Weather

THE man in charge of the weather seems to be growing more and more eccentric and unreliable. On April 30 he apparently decided to do something that would be, so to speak, off the record. He put the record low temperature of 13 for Calgary, reported April 30, 1909, right in the shade and pushed the thermometer down to 3 below zero during the night. At Saskatoon, it was down to 9 above zero (16° in 1916); at Medicine Hat 12 above (25° in 1950). Across the Rockies in British Columbia where they have been known to boast about their mild climate, it was in the low twenties in the Okanagan Valley, and cost the fruit growers of the Valley 75 per cent of their peach, pear, apricot, plum, prune and cherry crops, last year worth \$17,150,000. ✓

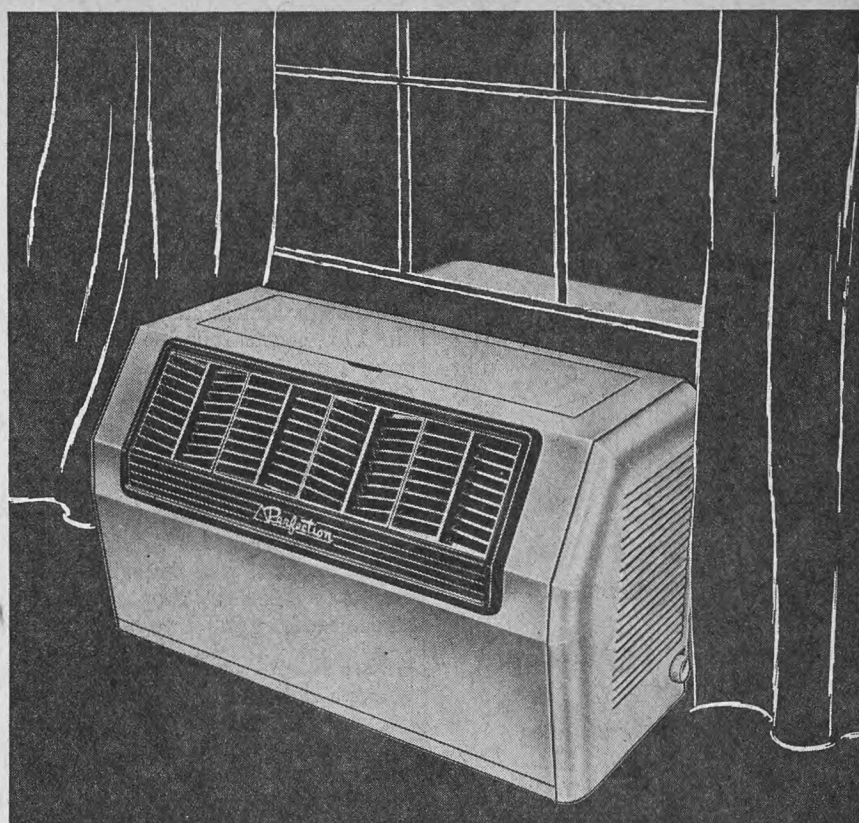
Meat Packing  
Statistics

IN 1951 the all-time peak of the value of sales for the slaughtering and meat packing industry in Canada was reached at \$892,090,641. Last year there was a decrease of 3.2 per cent to \$863,776,155. These figures covered 154 meat packing establishments, employing 22,864 employees and paying out \$71,378,013 in salaries and wages, as well as \$700,369,951 for materials.

In 1939, the value of products from 150 establishments was \$185,196,133. In that year the total number of all animals slaughtered was 6,194,248, costing \$125,541,468. In 1952 the number of animals slaughtered was 8,797,344, costing \$556,179,830.

The statistics published by the D.B.S. do not give any information as to the assets, capital invested, or profitability of the industry, which is characterized by high volume business and rapid turnover. The Council of Canadian Meat Packers, however, has reported that during the five-year period from 1946-50, the tax returns of nearly 100 Canadian packing companies reporting to the Department of National Revenue, indicate average net earnings of 1.7 per cent on sales. One of the largest of Canadian meat packing companies has reported, for its most recent fiscal year, a profit of 1.16 per cent of sales.

There are few strictly comparable figures available for comparison, but since 1948 the Canadian Manufacturers Association has been making an annual survey of the average profit made by Canadian industry in terms of the percentage of profit on each dollar of sales. For 1953 the average profit for 1,003 companies, with net sales of more than 7 billion dollars, having 470,258 shareholders and 457,537 employees, and a total investment of more than 5.5 billion dollars, was 5.2 cents per dollar of sales. In 1952, the Association reports, the figure was 5 cents; in 1951 it was 5.8 cents; in 1950, 7.1 cents; in 1949, 5.8 cents, and in 1948, 6.2 cents. It is further reported by the Association that all of these companies averaged 4.6 cents of each sales dollar paid in income taxes. Of the 5.2 cents profit, 2.3 cents was paid to shareholders in dividends, and 2.9 cents retained in the business. ✓



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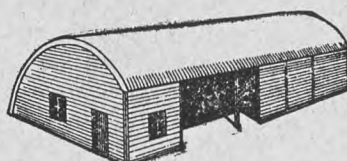
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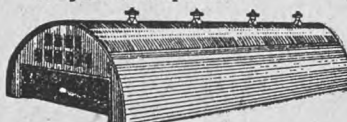
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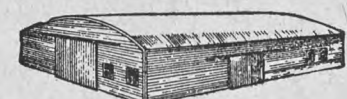
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**DUROID**

## NEWS OF AGRICULTURE

### Get It At a Glance

*An agricultural information tour that will take less than ten minutes of your time to complete*

Average persons per farm family in Canada is largest in Quebec, where the 1951 census found it to be six persons. Next in order came Newfoundland, 5.4; New Brunswick, 5.3; Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, 4.4 each; Manitoba, 4.2; Ontario, 4.1; Saskatchewan and Alberta, 4.0 each; and B.C., 3.7. ✓

The Egg Industry Advisory Committee in the United States has recommended against any support prices, or subsidies for eggs. ✓

Two federal agencies seized a large amount of butter adulterated by adding vegetable oils and sold in Montreal. This butter has been returned to those from whom it was seized, on condition that it may be resold for what it actually is, and that its sale must be in accordance with the laws in the province in which it is offered for sale. The money originally received for the adulterated butter has been handed over to the government. ✓

The U.S. Commodity Credit Corporation announced in the middle of May that it had made contracts for the storage of 12 million bushels of government-owned wheat on the ground at St. Joseph, Missouri, and 8 million bushels at Fort Worth, Texas. It is reported that storage of wheat on hard, rolled ground is superior to storage on flat concrete slabs, since the earth does not sweat, but absorbs moisture into the subsoil. ✓

Birth of the first ice-cream cone is unknown but is believed to have taken place at the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904. ✓

Per capita consumption for dairy products in Canada last year, with United States figures shown in brackets, was as follows: creamery butter, 19.3 lbs. (8.6); fluid milk and cream, 405 lbs. (352); cheese, 6 lbs. (6 lbs.); evaporated milk, 18.6 lbs. (15.3 lbs.); condensed milk, .09 lbs. (1.9 lbs.); dry, whole milk, .3 lbs. (.2 lbs.); dry skim milk, 4.4 lbs. (4.3 lbs.); ice cream, 16 Imperial pints (23.4 Imperial pints). ✓

Unusual weather this spring has brought calf losses to farmers and ranchers in Alberta, ranging from five to twenty per cent. ✓

United States authorities will declare Mexico free of foot-and-mouth disease on December 31 next, if no further outbreaks occur in the meantime. The U.S.-Mexican border will then be automatically opened to imports of livestock and livestock products into the United States. The present embargo has existed since 1946 but Mexico had been free for eight and a half months prior to May, 1953, when another outbreak occurred. ✓

Seed grain surveys have been made in 13 Saskatchewan rural municipalities this spring. Wheat seed only was surveyed by the local agricultural committees. ✓

Commercial fruit production in Canada in 1953 had a total farm value of 45.7 million dollars. Apples had the highest value at \$16 million, followed by strawberries, 6.4 million dollars; peaches, 5.3 million dollars; and by raspberries, grapes and blueberries, in excess of 3 million dollars each. Only four provinces produced much fruit commercially. For each one dollar's worth produced by New Brunswick last year, Quebec produced about \$10 worth, British Columbia \$20 worth, and Ontario about \$30 worth. ✓

Egg production in Canada during the month of March has been estimated at 39.9 million dozen, or an estimated average of 16 eggs per laying bird. ✓

With the end of food rationing in Britain, British consumers began to have free choices between butter and margarine, on Monday, May 10. Butter prices were expected to jump from 50 to 57 cents, and margarine, 20 cents per pound under rationing, was expected to go to 32 cents for the "De Luxe," or best grade, 24 cents for first grade and 19 cents for second grade. ✓

The 16.5 billion pounds of milk produced in Canada last year was used as follows: butter, 46 per cent; fluid milk sales, 30 per cent; cheddar cheese, 5 per cent; evaporated and powdered milk, 5 per cent; ice cream, 3 per cent; used on farms, 10 per cent. ✓

An Ontario Department of Agriculture analysis of a 200-pound lot of seed recently purchased at a farm auction indicated that the purchase was no bargain. The seed, in addition to alfalfa, red clover, alsike, sweet clover and timothy, contained 306 night-flowering catchfly, 90 curled dock, 68 green foxtail, 45 couchgrass, 23 bladder campion, 22 rib grass, and 11 chicory seeds in each ounce. In other words, each ounce of this mixture contained 565 weed seeds, which would make 1,000,800,000 in the 200-pound lot. ✓

In the Netherlands almost the only breed of sheep kept today is the Texel, so named from the island on which it originated. ✓

Canadian net farm income for 1953 has been estimated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at \$1,656,560,000, from a gross farm income of \$3,193,263,000 and a cash farm income of \$2,751,000,002. Saskatchewan led all provinces with a net farm income of \$474.3 million, followed by Ontario with \$401.6 million; Alberta, \$306.9 million; Quebec, \$262.5 million; Manitoba, \$110.6 million; B.C., \$40 million; New Brunswick, \$28.2 million; Nova Scotia, \$20.1 million; and P.E.I., \$12.3 million. ✓

Average consumption of wheat flour in the United States for the 1952-53 crop year was 128 pounds, a steady decrease from 1942 when average consumption was 159 pounds. ✓

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**GILLETT'S**  
100% PURE  
**LYE**



### POULTRYMAN'S BEST FRIEND STILL LYE!

Although there is a definite place for the new high-price, high-power disinfectants, poultrymen should bear two points in mind: First, no disinfectant, however powerful, can kill unless it can reach the trouble source. Second, no method has yet proved to be as effective in maintaining flock health as regular and thorough lye cleaning.

#### LYE DOES MANY JOBS

Lye is at once the cheapest and most effective cleaning and sanitizing agent for all poultry equipment. It cuts through grease extremely fast, removes dirt, and also sanitizes and deodorizes. (Poultry are often irritated by strong smells). It is highly effective against the germs of Coccidiosis, Laryngotracheitis, Infectious Bronchitis, Pullorum, Fowl Cholera, Bacillary White Diarrhoea of young chicks, and roundworm eggs.

#### USE LYE REGULARLY

The poultryman who cleans regularly with recommended lye solutions (costing around 1¢ a gallon) will seldom, if ever, have need for costly disinfectants, nor will he suffer loss through culls, food waste, disease and death.

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## NEWS OF AGRICULTURE

War on animal predators in Alberta, carried out by the provincial Department of Lands and Forests, involved employment of a band of 150 trappers. To the latter part of 1953, animals destroyed numbered 36,000 foxes, 20,600 coyotes, 4,200 lynx, 3,100 wolves, 1,700 bears, and 30 cougars. ✓

Washington has decided to proceed with the Libby dam on the Kootenay River in northwestern Montana, if approval can be secured from the International Joint Commission. It will be part of the Columbia River Power and Flood Control System, and construction was first authorized by the Congress in 1950. The dam will be 410 feet high, 2,700 feet long at the crest. It will create a reservoir from one-half to one-and-a-half miles wide for 53 miles in the United States and 42 miles in Canada. The reservoir will hold 5,985,000 acre-feet of water, and the project will cost an estimated \$263 million. ✓

The U.S. carryover of wheat on July 1, 1954 (beginning of U.S. crop year) is expected to be about 875 million bushels, which compares with the previous record quantities of 631 million bushels, July 1, 1942, and 562 million bushels, July 1, 1953. A 1954 crop of about 900 million bushels is expected to be taken care of by domestic disappearance and exports. ✓

The cost-of-living index rose in five of ten Canadian regional urban centers during the month of April. It declined in four other centers and remained unchanged in one. For western cities, the April figures show (index numbers for March in brackets): Winnipeg, 114.9 (114.7); Saskatoon - Regina, 113.6 (113.7); Edmonton-Calgary, 114.3 (114.4); Vancouver, 116.9 (116.3). Increases occurred in Halifax, St. John, Ottawa and Toronto. Montreal remained the same as in March at 116.3. Toronto was the highest in Canada at 117.7. ✓

More than 300,000 Saskatchewan people are served by frozen food locker plants, of which there are now 212 as compared with 200 a year ago, and less than 100 in 1948. Under the Saskatchewan Frozen Food Locker Act a minimum of 150 rented lockers is required, or about 175 to 200 potential customers before a plant may be established. ✓

Canada produced 8,621,000 pounds of wool last year, or 12 per cent more than in 1952. The average price was 38.5 cents per pound compared with 37.6 cents in 1952, but away below the 74 cents received in 1951. Total value of shorn wool last year was \$2,565,000. Last year Canada produced 8.6 million pounds, exported 3.7 million pounds, and imported 63 million pounds. ✓

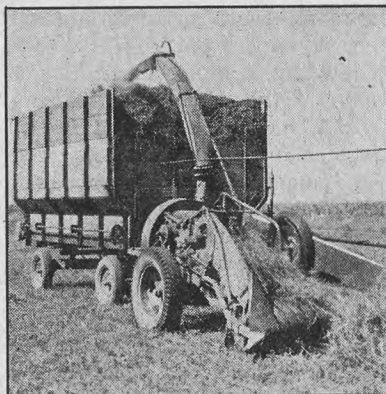
All members of 70 per cent or more of urban families, in cities of 50,000 or more population in Canada, drink milk. Highest is Quebec with 79 per cent, and lowest is British Columbia, with 69 per cent. Heaviest consumers are families with children and among these the lower income group buy more milk than either the middle or high income groups. Many older people do not drink enough milk to prevent calcium starvation. ✓



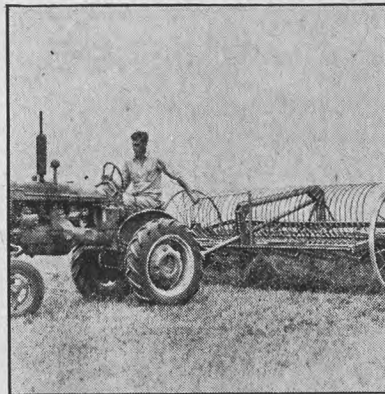
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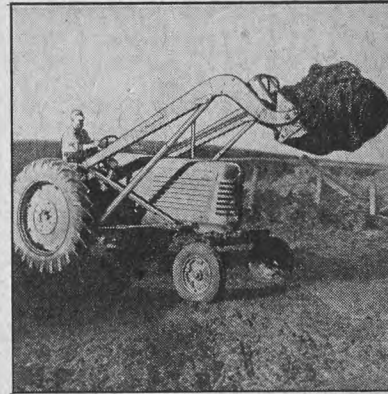
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## June Is The Month

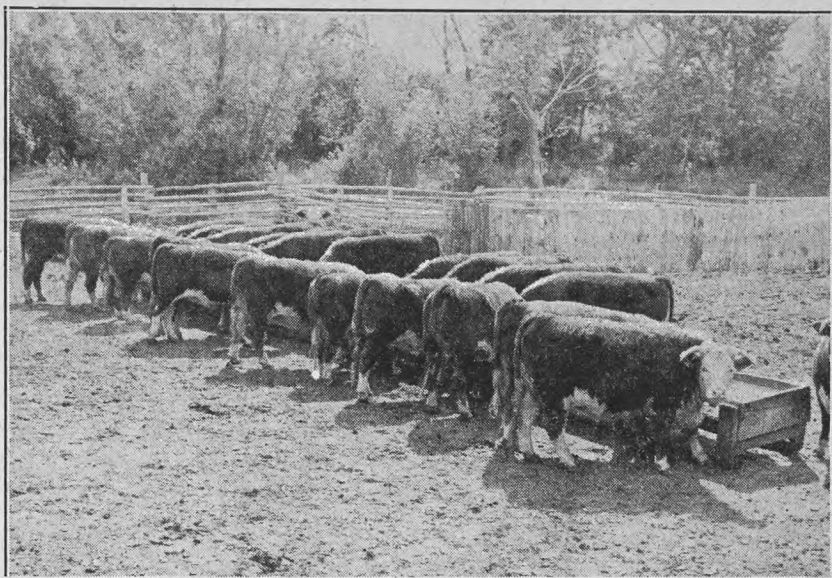
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## LIVESTOCK



These good heifers are in the herd of Hunter Brothers, at Fort Macleod.

## Handle Livestock With Care

Save enough meat for 50,000 Canadians

CARELESSNESS in the handling of Canadian livestock is said to destroy enough meat to supply the daily needs of about 50,000 Canadians. Most damage to hogs is done with canes, whips and clubs, when pigs are kicked and prodded, and roughly chased into, or out of, trucks or yards. Crowding, bumping, or rushing causes most of the damage to cattle, while rough handling, such as lifting by the wool, supplying unsatisfactory loading equipment, or insufficient bedding, causes most of the damage to sheep.

Swift Canadian Co. suggests several methods of reducing this huge loss. Use canvas slappers, it says, and outlaw clubs and whips. Eliminate protruding nails and broken boards from stalls or fences and remove machinery from the feedlot so that animals cannot be crowded into it. Cut the horns off cattle to prevent them from poking or tearing other livestock. When shipping in summer, bed the truck with sand, and in hot weather, wet the sand for hogs. In the winter, bed cattle with sand, but when shipping hogs and sheep, straw does a better job. Be sure, the company adds, to check the truck for danger points, such as improper ventilation, narrow doors, or protruding nails. Then load carefully, using a loading chute with steps, if possible. Use partitions to prevent trampling, separating sheep, calves, hogs, and different weights of cattle. In summer, too, give the animals some shade. V

Grain fed to the young sire during the breeding season helps to ensure continued growth and development, and avoids excessive loss of flesh. Exercise, too, says the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture, is essential to health and thrift. The feet of mature animals should be trimmed at least twice a year. The hoof should be trimmed from the under side to form a level bearing surface. When the outer edges is cracked or badly formed, the edges can be trimmed with pincers and smoothed with a coarse rasp. V

## Select for Wool Production

ABOUT 30 per cent of the receipts from the sheep flock come from wool sales, so fleeces are worth watching as a guide to culling this spring. S. B. Slen, wool specialist at the Experimental Station, Lethbridge, says that it is relatively easy to pick out the good mutton producers on the basis of conformation and performance, because these characteristics can be seen readily, even by those with a minimum of experience. However, although fleece is easily seen, it has many inherent characteristics of importance that are not visible to those unfamiliar with wool.

Mr. Slen points out that fineness of fibre, length of staple, density of fibres on the skin, and fleece weight, are related directly to the amount and value of wool.

Usually, finer fibres bring higher prices than coarser ones. On the sheep, the uniformity of fineness between different body areas indicates good breeding, and, in turn, will reduce the amount of sorting before the wool is manufactured.

To obtain the highest price, all wool within a particular grade must be of a certain staple length, and sheep with a longer staple will normally produce a heavier fleece. Experiments have shown that well-fed sheep will show as much as a 50 per cent increase in staple length, over similar, poorly fed animals. Uniformity of fibre length

## Try the Young Herd Sire

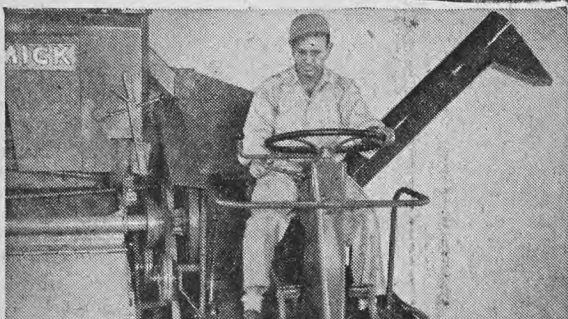
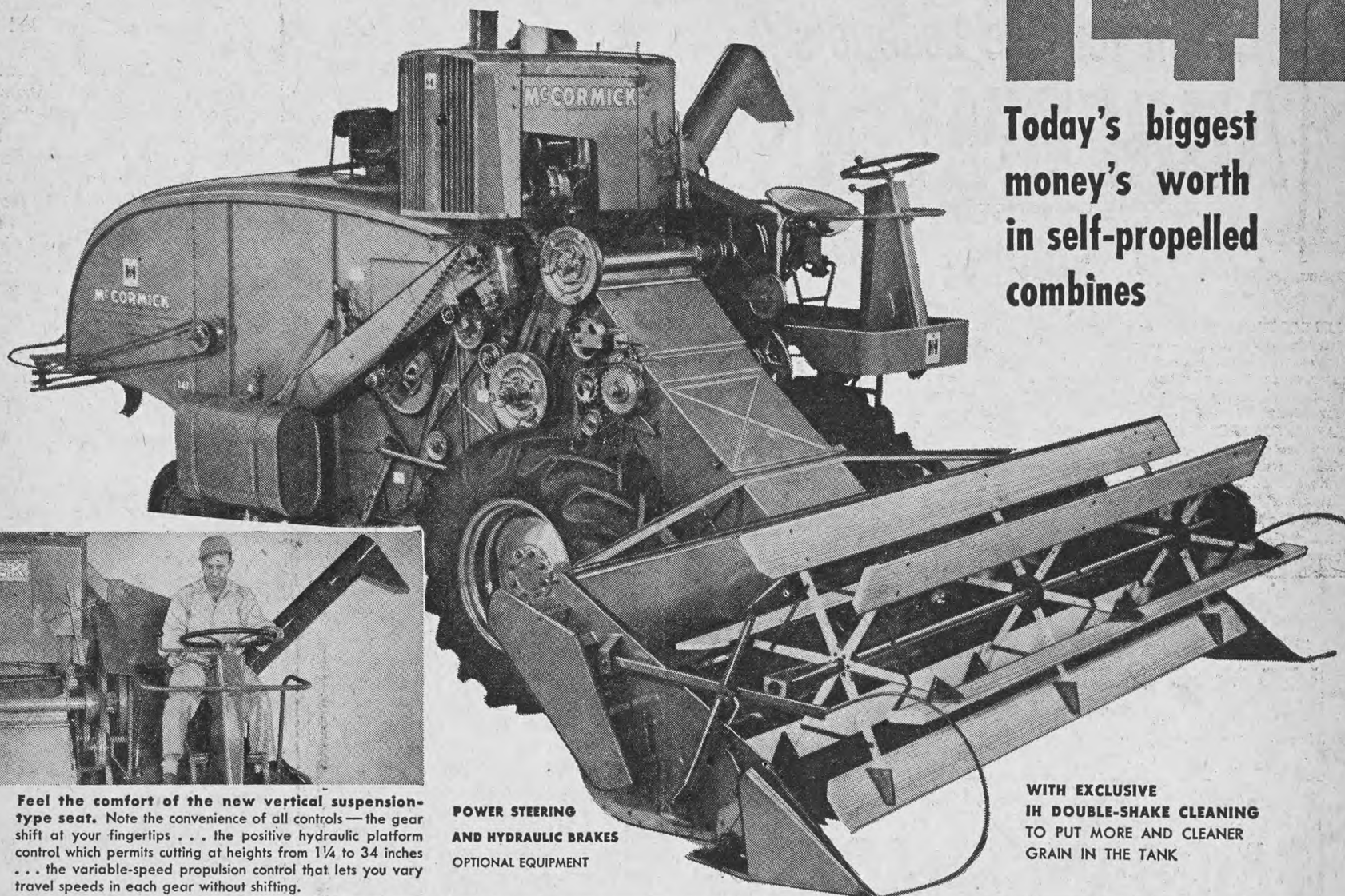
YEARLING bulls are often used as herd sires in small herds, because they represent a smaller initial cost and their re-sale value after two or three years is higher. However, a young bull is still untried as a breeder, and it is good policy to hand-breed several cows to see that not too many return for second service. This way, the bull can prove himself, and a heavy breeding schedule, which may interfere with his usefulness later, can be avoided.



# Wait till you see the great **NEW McCORMICK No.**

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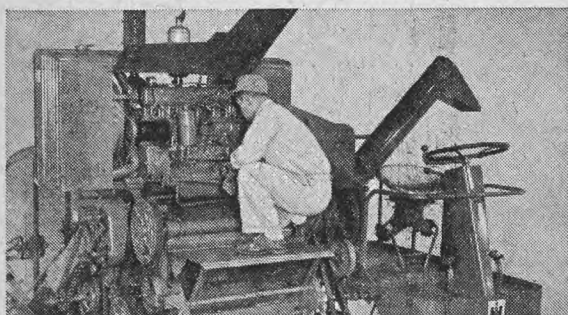
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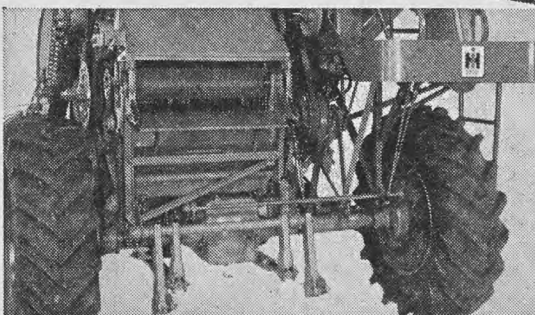
Feel the comfort of the new vertical suspension-type seat. Note the convenience of all controls—the gear shift at your fingertips... the positive hydraulic platform control which permits cutting at heights from 1¼ to 34 inches... the variable-speed propulsion control that lets you vary travel speeds in each gear without shifting.

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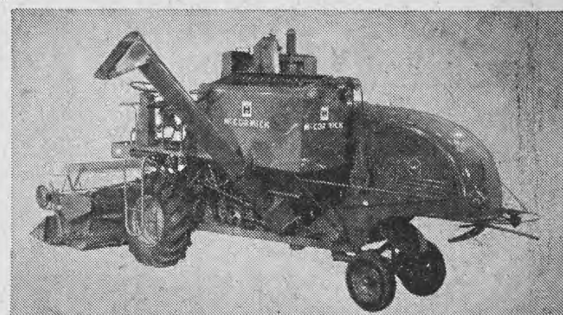
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## LIVESTOCK

reduces the losses when the wool is being combed.

Density means the number of fibres growing on a given skin area, and the greater this is, the greater will be the amount of wool produced. This can be detected by grasping the fleece at two or three places along the side and back, judging the density by the quantity held in the hand.

The combined effects of fineness, length and density, can be measured by actually weighing the fleeces at shearing time. Then, says Mr. Slen, the low-producing ewes can be marked for fall shipment and better replacements saved from the lamb flock. V

## Prevent Blackleg By Vaccination

MOST blackleg losses can be prevented by a vaccination program, says Dr. E. E. Ballantyne, Director of Veterinary Services in Alberta. Since blackleg and malignant edema are very similar, and occur in the same areas, cattlemen are urged to use a bacterin that will protect cattle against both diseases.

When buying a bacterin, care should be taken to be sure it is a good one, and that it has been kept under refrigeration at the temperature recommended by the manufacturer. The bacterin should also be kept under refrigeration at home.

The bacteria that cause blackleg and malignant edema form spores which can live in the soil for years, Dr. Ballantyne warns. Once the diseases appear on a farm, a yearly program of vaccination is necessary. Animals which have been killed by the diseases should be burnt, or buried deeply, so other animals won't come in contact with it. V

## Moldy Grain For Stock

MOLDY grain may be a useful stock feed. Most of the common molds are not poisonous to livestock. In fact, it has been suggested that the presence of some molds such as penicillium may even have a beneficial effect. However, scientists say that in practice it would be wise either to test moldy feeds on one animal first, or introduce moldy grain into the ration gradually and keep a close watch on the animals for any signs of digestive disturbances. A few molds are dangerous and an environment that produces molds will also encourage bacterial action, which might, in turn, produce poisonous material.

Lethbridge Experimental Station reports that oats, rejected because of mold, were fed to sheep and swine, and moldy feed wheat also was fed to swine. The molds present on the grains were identified and all found to be harmless types. Bacteria of several species were present and they too were harmless. The oats were almost as digestible as good fresh oats, and the slight difference would warrant only a five to seven-cent spread in price if the weights per bushel were the same. The moldy wheat was even more digestible than No. 5 wheat, with the difference probably being caused by a species of penicillium. V

## Stop Scum Growth

GREEN scum that sometimes gathers in water tanks in hot summer weather, can be killed by copper sulphate (bluestone). Remember, though, this chemical is poisonous, and if too much is used, it will kill the cattle too.

A safe dosage is the equivalent of eight pounds of copper sulphate to one million gallons of water. That means one ounce of the chemical to 8,000 gallons, or one level teaspoonful for 1,500 gallons of water.

A range stock tank about 12 feet in diameter that carries about three feet of water, would take about two level teaspoons for adequate treatment.

One safe method of using the chemical is to dissolve the crystals in a few gallons of water, using a wooden, enamelled or stoneware container. Then the solution can be stirred slowly into the tank. V

## Vaccinate Dogs Against Rabies

THE outbreak of rabies in southern Manitoba, in an area where the disease has never previously existed, has not as yet assumed alarming proportions, says Dr. R. H. Lay, District Veterinarian, but it is one of potential danger. It has been shown, he pointed out, that when the infection becomes established in wild animals, it cannot be brought under control and eradicated quickly. It propagates itself in these animals because of their biting habits, and continues to spread over wider areas, from which it is transmitted to domesticated animals.

The Health of Animals Division of the Federal Department of Agriculture will investigate promptly, any suspected cases amongst animals, says Dr. Lay. Under federal law, all persons are required to report any cases, or suspected cases, immediately to the nearest officer of the Health of Animals Division.

A vaccine which will protect dogs for about a year is available, but full protection is not obtained until 30 days after inoculation. Dr. Lay recommends that dog owners protect their animals through vaccination. V

## Creep Feed Young Pigs

YOUNG pigs must be treated to prevent anemia, until they get started to creep feed. Since sows' milk is low in iron and copper, the suckling animals must be given it in a supplemental form, says Dr. J. P. Bowland, of the University of Alberta.

Once the pigs are eating a reasonable amount of solid feed, the threat of anemia is largely past. Creep feeding gets the pigs started on solid feed, and Dr. Bowland describes the characteristics of a good creep feed. It must be palatable first of all, for if they will not eat it, the feed is useless. It must be low in fibre also, and high in energy content. It must have good texture, although it is not yet fully determined just what the proper texture is. Finally, it must be well fortified with essential minerals, vitamins and antibiotics. V





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## LIVESTOCK

### Legumes for Dairy Cows

THE Manitoba Dairy Branch says it takes a combination of good cows, good feed and good management, to get the highest returns from dairying. Cows must be able to consume a large quantity of roughage and turn it into milk. Good hay and silage and pasture are the most important feeds. Then the entire dairy program must be well organized.

One group of nine Manitoba dairy farmers in the 1953 dairy cost study made ten times as much money per cow for their labor as another group of nine farmers. The top group made \$111 as against \$11 for the others. The cost of feed per dairy animal unit was \$98 for both groups and other costs were about the same for each group. The difference occurred in the returns per animal.

The high income group averaged 8,700 pounds of milk per cow, and a gross income per dairy animal unit of \$298. Feed cost was \$98. The lowest group averaged only 5,900 pounds of milk per cow, with a revenue of \$189 from the same value of feed. This left a return above feed costs of \$200 for the top group and only \$91 for the other.

The two groups were fed the same amount of grain per cow, approximately 1,950 pounds, which was too much grain for low-producing animals. There was a big difference in quality of hay, with cows in the lower group getting nearly 50 per cent wild hay, and the others getting nearly 50 per cent legume hay. Biggest difference in feeding, however, was in the type of pasture. The best group had 1.5 acres of seeded pasture, 1 acre of wild pasture and 1.9 acres of bush pasture per cow. The poorer group had only .3 acre of seeded pasture, 2.2 acres of wild pasture and 2.8 acres of bush pasture for each cow.

The Dairy Branch concludes that legumes are essential on good land, so that too much acreage will not be required to produce enough feed for high milk production. On less productive land, more acres are required to supply enough roughage. V

### Cereal Hay For Steers

WORK at Swift Current, Saskatchewan, has shown that cereal hay, harvested in the late dough stage and fed in a cut form, will produce good gains in calves, with little wastage. Four steer calves in these tests were fed over winter on a mixture of oat, barley and wheat hay. The feed was cut into one-inch sections with a forage harvester, and blown into a stack. The calves, weighing from 425 to 485 pounds when placed on feed, were weighed daily. Consumption was approximately 14 pounds per day for the first 65 days, and the rate of gain was 1.1 pounds per day. After 65 days the feed consumption increased overnight to 18 pounds per day, and during the following 70-day period, the gain per animal was 1.85 pounds per day.

When the animals were slaughtered, they provided excellent quality meat and dressed out 56 per cent, cold carcass weight. V



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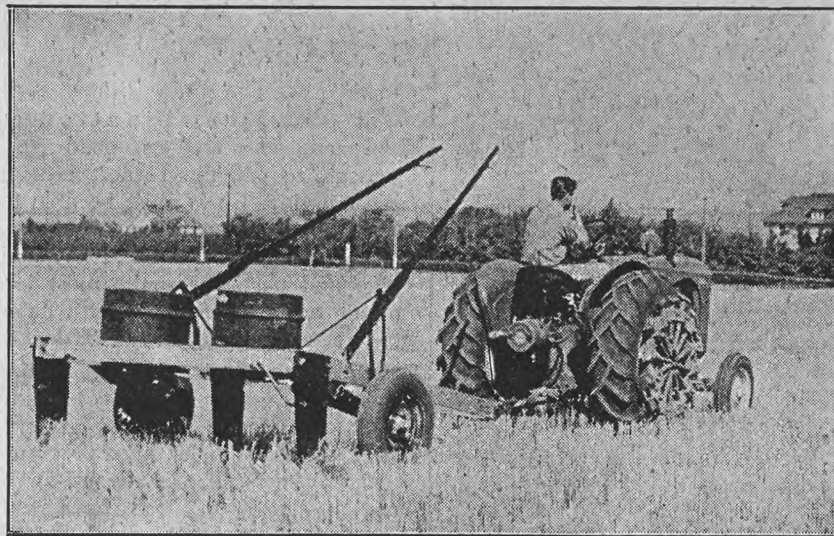
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## FIELD



[Swift Current Expr. Stn. photos]

Weights help to keep a blade cultivator in the ground in hard spots.

## Getting the Best From Your Blade

*The apparent simplicity of the blade cultivator lulls some operators into letting their machines get out of adjustment*

ALTHOUGH blade cultivators give best results on medium soils farmers on heavy and sandy soils in the drier parts of the plains country sometimes use them. The blade is also making some inroads into higher rainfall areas. Irrational? Perhaps. But the blade does not bury stubble, and many farmers feel that either a stubble wind-break or water dam is worth extra trouble.

On some soils the machine cannot be profitably used at all, though the time, the place and the way the machine is used have an important effect on the success of its use in all soil types. Even in soil that is natural for it, the machine must be used correctly.

The time to use the blade weeder is after soils have dried out. In a wet soil the tillage action of the blade is very often not severe enough to kill weeds.

The place to use it for the very best results is on medium-textured soils in the drier regions. The tillage action of a blade cultivator is very similar to that of a standard cultivator shovel and soil conditions which limit the

effectiveness of a cultivator, similarly limit a blade.

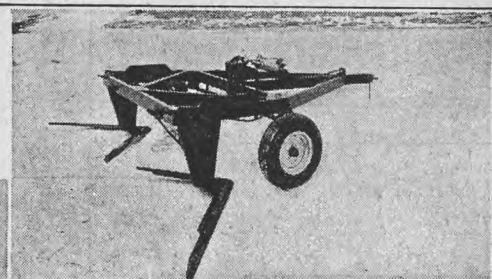
In heavy clay soils the use of a blade must be restricted to drier seasons, because of the poor scouring action of these soils when they are wet. The lack of soil resistance in light, sandy soils reduces the shearing action of the blade, but new developments are gradually overcoming some of these difficulties.

As with any machine, adjustment is all-important. The apparent simplicity of the blade cultivator has encouraged many users to take for granted that it is properly adjusted when it isn't. This has led to poor work and disappointment.

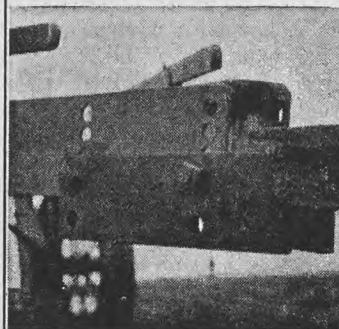
All adjustments found on the blade cultivator are basically for two purposes: To adjust the cutting edge so it will be exactly parallel with the ground at working depths, and to set the working depth.

For best work the blade must be horizontal to the ground in the direction of travel. On some machines this is accomplished by altering the height of the hitch; and on others, the front bolt holding the standard fits through

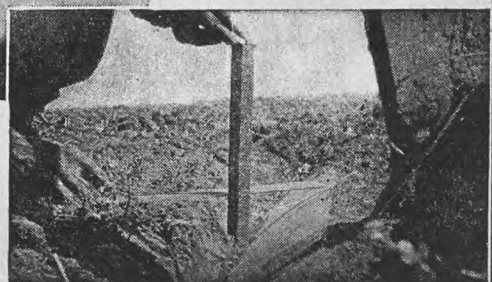
Slotted holes and adjustable rods on the standard level the cutting edge in the direction of, and across, the direction of travel.



Altering the adjustable hitch keeps the cutting edge level at all depths.

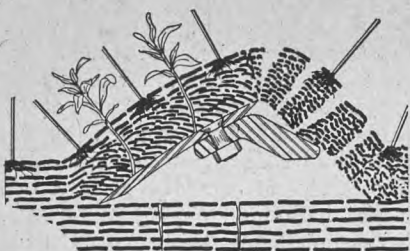


Several points throughout the length of the blade should be measured to ensure that the blade is at the same depth at all points.





## FIELD



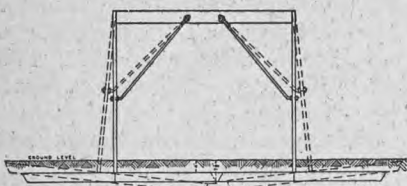
The importance of speed and depth of operation are shown in this drawing of a blade cultivator's action.

a slotted hole, and the standard itself is moved until it is level. On many machines adjustment is made at right angles to the direction of travel, by altering the adjustable side rods.

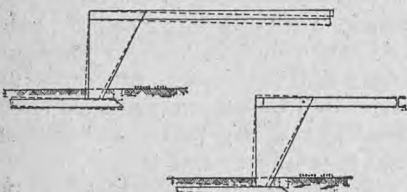
A straight-blade cultivator, in which the blade runs too flat, will permit wearing of the frog: if too steep, the draft will be increased. Adjustment is made by altering the height of the hitch or, with the aid of slotted bolt holes, moving the front of the standards up or down.

The pitch on V-type blades is fixed. Tilting the nose down, however, may let the wings come out of the ground and become trash-bound. The blades should be adjusted until level: A string stretched under the ends of the wings will indicate if all are at the same height. Once set, they require only periodic attention, unless the machine is hooked to another tractor with a higher or lower drawbar; then they will have to be readjusted.

Depth adjustments are usually incorporated in the lifting mechanism. Weeds can be killed normally, with minimum draft, by operating at depths of two to four inches. Going too deep will reduce the root damage inflicted on weeds and result in a poorer kill.



The solid lines show the correct adjustment at right angles to travel direction when V-shovels are corrected with adjustable rods . . .

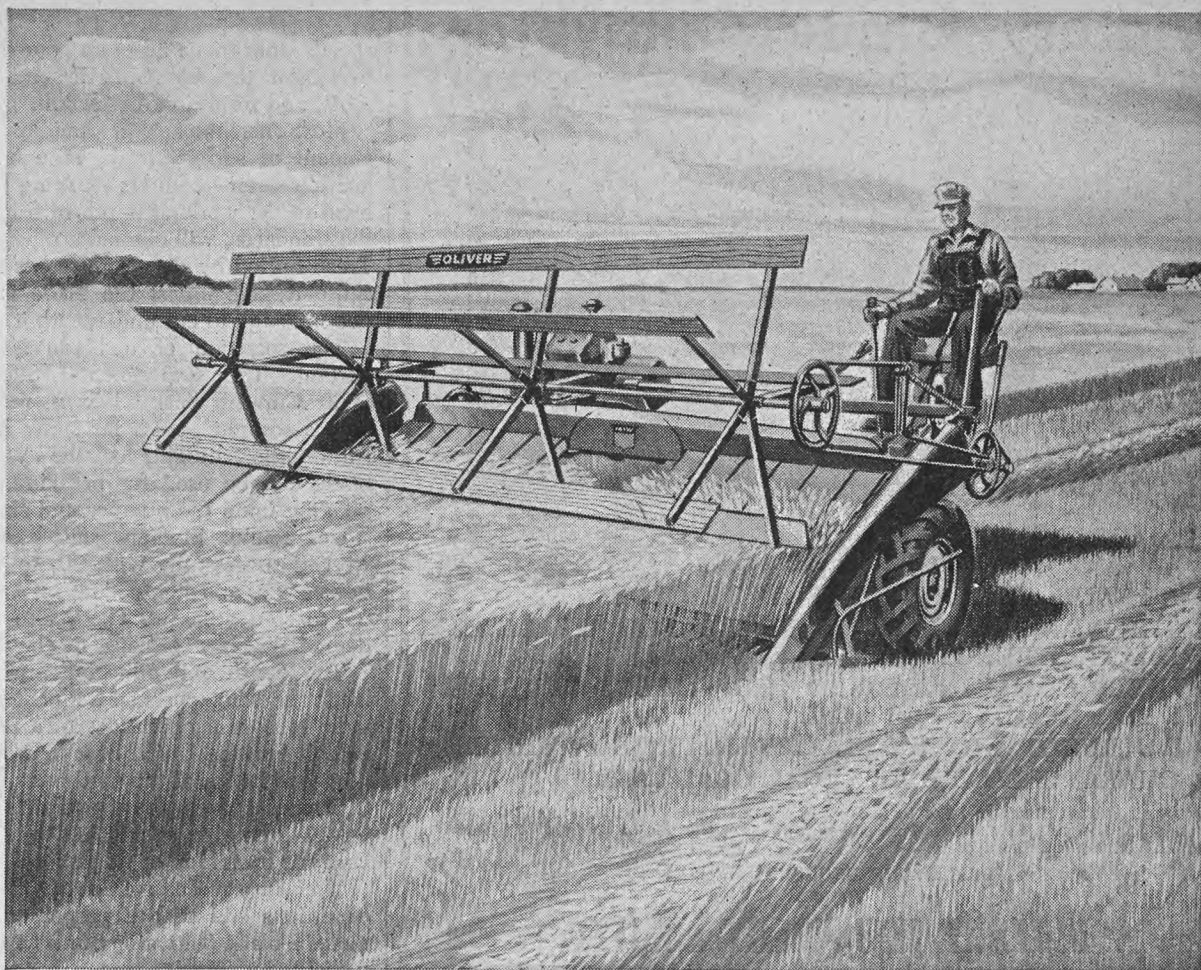


. . . while correction in the direction of travel is made with a slotted standard or an adjustable hitch.

Too shallow operation may result in missed spots. A good practice is to start with the machine set deep and gradually reduce the depth until a minimum depth is reached at which the machine will function properly.

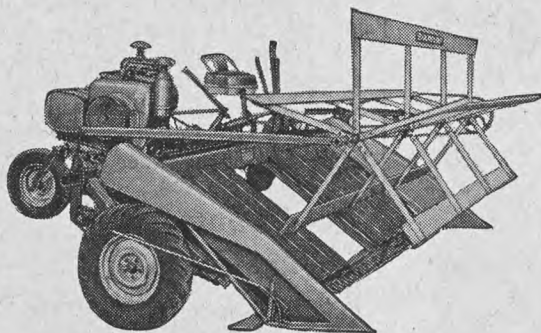
If the machine does not penetrate, the addition of weights, ranging from very little up to 150 to 200 pounds per foot width of cut, will help. A good set of weights can be made from blocks of cement encased in strap iron frames. With this extra weight, it is often possible to maintain a shallower and more even depth of operation.

A number of practices make a difference as to success achieved with a blade cultivator. Cultivation should be done on hot, dry days, preferably when the weeds are small. Fairly high



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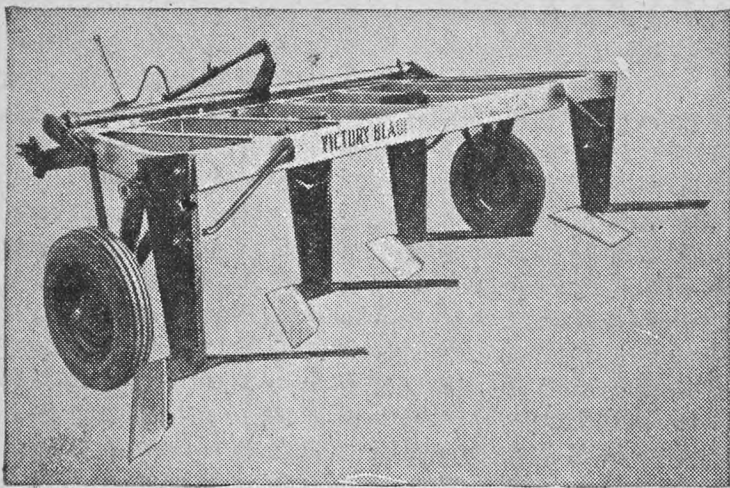
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## FIELD

speeds—four to six miles an hour—help to loosen the soil from around the roots, and result in a better kill.

Most machines will handle any amount of surface trash, though 18-inch-diameter coulters cutting the trash to the working depth in front of the standards, will eliminate plugging. Trash buried by disk implements may cause trouble unless the blade is set deep enough to cut underneath it.

The selection of a blade is important. The Experimental Station, Swift Current, Saskatchewan, recommends straight blades for stony land. Either the straight, or the V-type blade can be used for breaking, depending upon the number and size of stones found. Medium soils can be worked successfully with 90- to 100-degree V's, and light, loose soils with 65- to 75-degree V's. The 90- to 100-degree V's show promise in clays.

The depth and adjustment of the blade should be checked frequently for most successful operation. In a rough field it may be found best to work a little deeper, until the field is smooth. Changing the angle of working the field will help to level it, and will prevent the formation of ridges.

Used on suitable soil, under correct conditions and with a proper adjustment, a blade cultivator can be a most valuable implement. V

the chemicals after they have passed the seedling stage, but satisfactory control has been achieved with dosages of four to eight ounces per acre of the amine formulation, applied shortly after the weeds appear above ground. The flax plants must be at least two inches high for spraying to be safe.

Perennial sow thistle, or Canada thistle, can seldom be completely killed in flax or grain crops, without damaging the crop. Top growth can be reduced and seed setting prevented by dosages of six to eight ounces acid per acre of 2,4-D, or MCP amine, or four to eight ounces ester, applied when the flax is in the pre bud stage.

Green foxtail in flax fields can be readily killed in its early seedling stage by applications of three to five ounces acid equivalent per acre of TCA (Sodium Trichloroacetate). This chemical can be mixed and applied in one operation with 2,4-D or MCP. V

## Hay Condition

**T**HE safe storage of hay depends primarily on its moisture content, and here are some rough but fairly reliable rules for determining when hay may be safely stored or baled.

When freshly cut, hay contains approximately 70 to 75 per cent moisture. After wilting, and when it is ready for windrowing, the moisture will have been reduced to 50-55 per cent. If hay is to be baled and cured in storage, by forcing heated air through it, it can be baled while juice can be squeezed from the stems, which will indicate approximately 45 per cent moisture.

Two rough field tests are available: A handful of hay from the center of the windrow when twisted will indicate whether juice can be squeezed from it. If the juice can be squeezed out fairly readily, the moisture is probably around 45 per cent; and with loose bales, the hay can be cured in bales with heated air forced through it. Another test is the thumbnail test. By taking a sample from the center of the windrow and scraping the stem with the thumbnail, the outer skin will scrape off easily, and moisture will be visible underneath this outer skin until the moisture content drops to 28 or 30 per cent. Half-a-dozen stems at least should be tried.

When the moisture drops to 35 per cent, juice will be difficult to squeeze out of the stems by twisting. At this stage, hay in loose bales can be cured by forced air, without heated air.

At 30 per cent moisture, the stems are pliable, but the leaves begin to rattle. When hay is twisted, no juice appears on the twisted stem, and no juice is visible when the stem is scraped with the thumbnail. At the 28 to 30 per cent stage, baling should be started very soon, or the leaves will shatter. When the moisture is down to 25 per cent, loose bales can be stacked, with ventilator spaces between them, safely. At about 22 per cent, loose hay and dense bales may be stored safely, though there may be slight heating near the center of the stack, or in tightly packed bales. At 20 per cent moisture, the hay is safe for field chopper and storage in a mow or loft. V

## Longer Life For Fence Posts

**D**URING the spring, freshly cut poplar, elm and ash fence posts can be easily and cheaply treated with a chemical preservative. This will make them last in the ground from 15 to 25 years, according to the North Dakota Agricultural College.

The freshly cut posts can be treated in a day with zinc chloride, chromated zinc chloride, or copper sulphate, but the treatment should be applied within two or three days after the post is cut.

Zinc chloride, or chromated zinc chloride, should be dissolved in water at the rate of one pound in a gallon. Set the posts, butt down, in a wood, ceramic or concrete (never metal) container. Add the chemical mixture, and allow the posts to stand in it for an entire day.

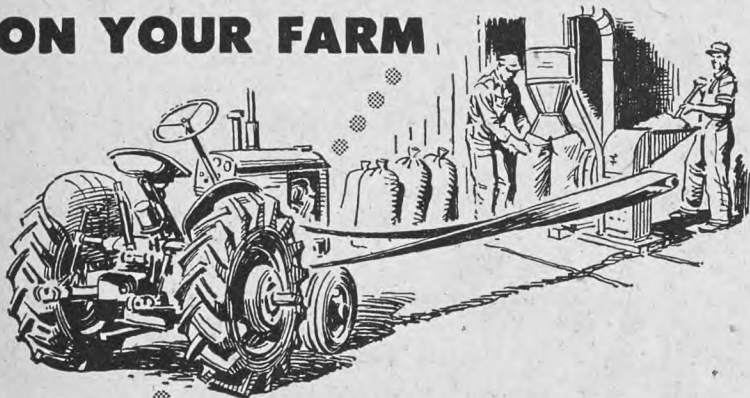
If copper sulphate is used, the chemical should be mixed at the rate of two and one-half pounds in a gallon of water. Treating procedure is the same as with the other chemicals. V

## Weed Control In Flax Crops

**W**HEN spraying with herbicides to control weeds in flax, care must be exercised to avoid damaging the crop. Generally, flax can be treated most safely from the time the plants are three inches high, up to seven inches, or before the buds appear. Serious damage may result if the crop is sprayed after the bud stage is reached.

Annual weeds including stinkweed, common mustard, and lamb's quarters are readily killed by applications of three to six ounces per acre of amine 2,4-D, or MCP, according to work carried out at the Experimental Farm, Brandon, Manitoba. Russian thistle, wild buckwheat and redroot pigweed build up considerable resistance to

## BEAT BELT BREAKDOWNS ON YOUR FARM

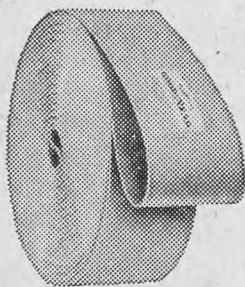


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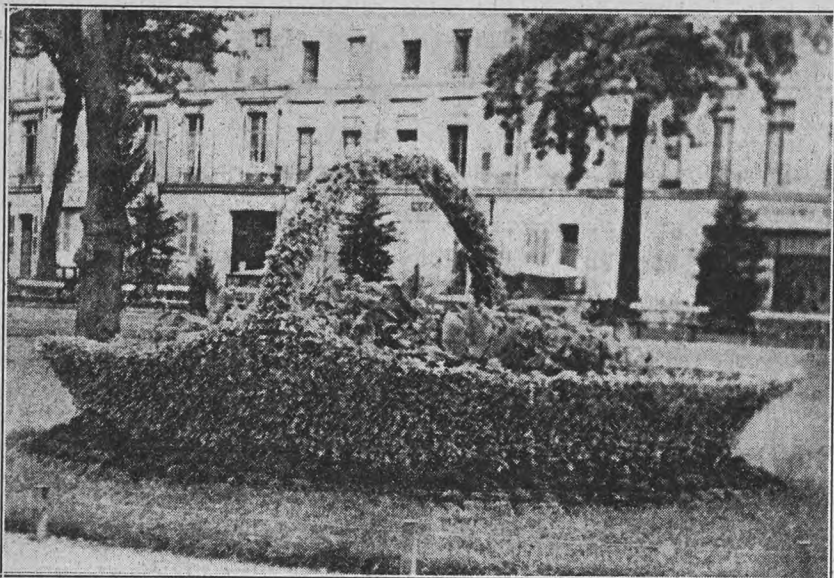


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## HORTICULTURE



*This floral decoration is to be found at Amiens, in France. This use of flowers and plants in public places is now becoming fairly rare.*

### Soil Reaction For Vegetables

**T**HE degree of acidity or alkalinity in soils, termed "soil reaction," is important for its effect on the availability of plant nutrients. Some garden crops are sensitive to acid, and the degree of acidity which suits them best varies considerably.

Generally, soils that are strongly acid are low in available phosphorus, according to Dr. H. Hill, plant physiologist, Division of Horticulture, Ottawa. Such soils leach readily and thus lose their basic mineral plant foods. Soils that are alkaline may affect the supply of iron, manganese and boron in the soil, by making it unavailable for plant growth. Thus, plums and apples, for example, as well as turnips, may not do well in alkaline soils, not because they are not normally tolerant to such soils, but because the alkalinity has transformed some of the elements from available to unavailable forms. Strongly acid soils, too, are much more likely to be deficient in magnesium. Consequently, apples and potatoes sometimes show magnesium deficiency, because the magnesium has been leached out of the soil. Similarly, sandy soils that are strongly acid are often deficient in available potassium, though potassium deficiencies are not often met with in the prairie provinces.

Soil reaction is indicated by the symbol pH, followed by a number as low as 0 and as high as 14. Specifically, the pH value is the measure of the hydrogen-ion concentration in the soil, and the numbers between 1 and 14 represent the number of gram-ions of hydrogen-ions in one litre of soil (about 1,000 cubic centimeters). Soils that are perfectly neutral, that is neither acid nor alkaline, have a pH value of 7. From 7 down, the numbers represent increasing degrees of acidity, and from 7 up, increasing degrees of alkalinity.

Most garden vegetables require a fair amount of acidity in the soil to do well. Thus, such vegetables as asparagus, beets, cauliflower, parsnip and spinach, have a preference for soils with a pH value of 6.0 to 6.7. Beans, cabbage, celery, lettuce, onions and peas have a somewhat wider range from 5.5 to 6.7; and carrots, sweet corn, tomatoes and turnips have a still wider range from 5.2 to 6.7. Potatoes

will grow successfully in soils with pH values ranging from 4.8 to 6.5, but if potato scab is a problem, the range should be much narrower, from 4.8 to 5.4.

Although asparagus prefers soil that is at least slightly acid, it will grow very well in slightly alkaline soil, up to 7.5. Beets are supposed to be sensitive to acids, but on muck soils, if enough available copper is present, the pH value may be as low as 4.6. Likewise, if boron or manganese sulphate, or both, are applied to decidedly alkaline soils, beets will also produce well. Such crops as spinach and beans may grow well on soils outside their preferred range of pH values, under certain circumstances. V

### Ants And Aphids

**B**OTH ants and aphids are often annoyances to gardeners about this time of year. Both can be taken care of quite readily.

For ants, secure some carbon bisulphide in liquid form, from your druggist. Poke a few holes about three or four inches deep near the ant nest and pour a little carbon bisulphide in each hole. Cover up the holes and the gas which evaporates will penetrate the colony and kill the ants. Another method is to scatter DDT, pyrethrum, or a combination of these, where the ants are thickest.

Aphids can be controlled most readily by using nicotine sulphate or Black Leaf 40. Follow the directions on the container, and spray the undersides of the leaves, making sure that the spray comes in contact with the insects. Start as soon as the pests are noticed, because they multiply rapidly. Aphids can also be controlled by using a pyrethrum, derris or rotenone compound, making sure that the powder comes into direct contact with the insects. V

### Spring Bulbs After Flowering

**D**ON'T cut off the foliage of tulips, daffodils, and other small spring flowering bulbs, as soon as flowering is completed. Allow the foliage to ripen naturally, which will take a month or six weeks. It will then turn yellow and can be removed without doing harm to

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## HORTICULTURE

the bulbs. Removing it immediately after flowering reduces the supply of food, and the bulb may not bloom next year, or may even fail to grow.

If, for some reason, you want the surface space for other purposes, the bulbs may be removed as soon as they have flowered, and "heeled in" in a shallow trench about four inches deep and four inches wide, until the foliage has fully matured. Take as much soil as will stick to the bulbs along with them when they are lifted, to prevent injury to the roots. Set them close together in the trench and cover with an inch or two of loose soil to keep them from drying out. After the leaves have turned yellow, they will come away from the bulbs easily, and these can then be lifted, dried in the shade, cleaned and stored in shallow boxes in a warm, dry place until late September or early October, according to D. F. Cameron, Division of Horticulture, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. ✓

### Grasses for Good Lawns

R. H. KNOWLES, horticulturist, Department of Plant Science, University of Alberta, Edmonton, says that few grasses remain green the year around and good lawn grass mixtures must be made up with several factors in mind.

Some grasses are most vigorous in the spring. Others thrive during hot weather. The lawn owner wants grasses that will grow well together, and provide a pleasing lawn throughout the season. Up to the present time, Kentucky bluegrass and creeping red fescue are considered to be the best grasses available for central Alberta. To do best, however, water must be available when needed; but under such conditions one pound of Kentucky blue to four pounds of creeping red fescue, per 1,000 square feet of lawn space, will make an attractive lawn.

Unfortunately, although creeping red fescue is suitable for shady spots, Kentucky blue is not. For such areas it can be replaced with rough-stalked bluegrass.

Mr. Knowles does not recommend either red top or perennial rye grass, because the red top does not germinate much more quickly than creeping red fescue, and the perennial rye grass fails to harden off for winter and may not only crowd out more desirable grasses, but be dead by spring. ✓

### To Make A Lawn

PLANNING to make a new lawn this year or spruce up the old one? June is a good time to do it. Readers living in Saskatchewan can get an attractive little pamphlet called "The Seeding and Care of Lawns in Saskatchewan" from any agricultural representative's office, or by writing to the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture, at Regina. It contains useful information about preparing the seedbed, how to destroy weeds and get rid of wireworms, what to do about fertilizers, as well as when and how to seed, and what the best kinds of grasses are.

If you don't need to build a new lawn, the pamphlet also has good ad-

vice about the care of lawns after they are established. ✓

### Avoid Wormy Currants

GROWING currants on the prairies was very disappointing business until DDT arrived. The currant fruit fly, an inconspicuous insect that modestly kept out of the way until the fruits began to form, was then successful in laying an egg in a very large number of the berries. This meant that the whole crop was pretty well ruined. The berry continued to grow, but the egg hatched a tiny maggot which lived inside, in comfort, until just before the currants were ready to harvest. Then the infected berries fell to the ground, the maggot entered the ground, to come out in the spring as a mature fly and repeat the process.

The time to stop the mischief is while the female fly is sitting around on the under side of the leaves, near the center of the bush, waiting for the time to come when she can lay her eggs. As soon as the flowers begin to fade, spray the under sides of the leaves thoroughly, with a mixture consisting of one-third ounce of wettable DDT in one gallon of water. P. D. McCalla, Alberta Department of Agriculture, says, "Be sure to spray toward the center of the bush and hit all the under sides of the leaves, because this is where the flies will be resting. Do not spray until the flowers begin to fade because, by then, the bees will have completed pollinating the blossoms and they will not be killed by the DDT."

Gooseberries are also subject to attacks by the fruit fly, and can be given the same treatment. ✓

### Dandelions In Your Lawn

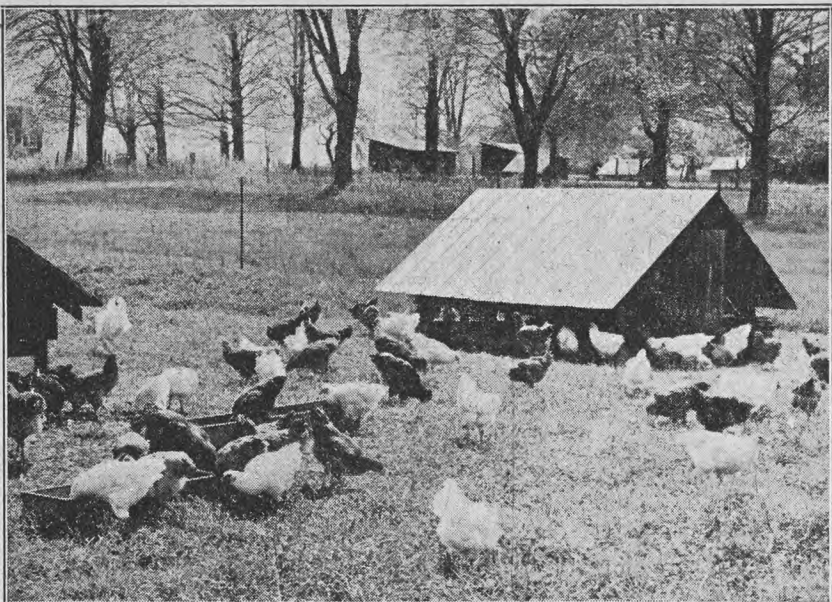
A WEED, according to an old definition, is a plant out of place, and pretty as the dandelion is, it is a nuisance when it gets into a lawn where it is not wanted. Like many of our plants and farm crops, the dandelion is an immigrant which came to us from Europe. Moreover, it has developed into a worse pest in parts of Canada where moisture conditions are satisfactory than it was in Europe. Even in dry areas its persistence is remarkable.

Once it gets a foothold in any area, it is difficult to eradicate. It has a fleshy taproot which will carry the plant through many dry spells; and the ripened seeds appear within about two weeks from the time the flower opens. The dandelion is very difficult to control and the old method was to spud them out, which not only meant much laborious, back-breaking work, but was fruitless unless the root was cut off about four inches below the soil surface.

Chemical control is much easier and more effective, and 2,4-D will control dandelions readily, but care must be taken that no susceptible flowers or ornamentals are near enough to get any of the spray. It should not be used where there is bentgrass in the lawn. Spraying, however, must be repeated almost every year, because the dandelion seeds so freely that new seeds constantly blow in and re-seed the lawn. ✓



## POULTRY



Birds can be raised most economically on good green pasture. Trees and range shelters provide protection and shade to help keep the birds healthy.

## Another Poultry Disease

*C.R.D. has appeared in prairie poultry flocks, but antibiotics will help to control it*

AIR Sac Disease, Chronic Respiratory Disease, or just C.R.D., is another disease that has appeared in prairie poultry flocks this year. Dr. Jay Isa, assistant animal pathologist for the Manitoba Department of Agriculture, says that he suspects now that some sick birds which were not definitely diagnosed as cases of C.R.D. last summer, were actually the first victims of the disease in the district.

Now, C.R.D. has been diagnosed in all sections of the U.S. and many parts of Canada. When it strikes a flock, losses vary greatly; from as low as five per cent to as high as 40 per cent. Untreated flocks of chicks and poults may show evidence of the disease for a long time, and the survivors may be undersized and emaciated. The duration is shorter in hens.

As the name suggests, it is a respiratory disease affecting the breathing. Infected chicks and poults will huddle up and tremble, will eat less and begin to lose weight. Infected adult birds will eat less, too, and egg production of layers will drop off. Gasping and coughing and exaggerated breathing will be noted in both young and adults.

Transmission of the disease is not entirely understood, but it may be carried by air, or through eggs. A large virus causes the disease and it spreads rapidly from bird to bird. From the time the disease first invades a flock until the first disease symptoms are noticed, may be only a few hours, or several weeks.

Dr. Isa points out that diagnosis should be made by a veterinarian. Successful treatment means using antibiotics, and keeping the birds eating to maintain weight and vigor. Temperature of the brooder should be raised, and the humidity increased, to prevent the birds' throats and mouths becoming dried out.

Terramycin or aureomycin can be used as a soluble powder in water, or as a pre-mix in feed. Streptomycin as a soluble powder is another antibiotic,

and can be added to the drinking water for easy treatment. ✓

### Range or Sun Porch

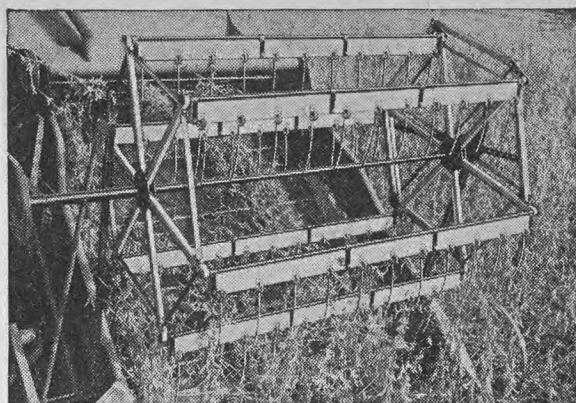
THE range is a good place to rear poults, but the Canada Department of Agriculture points out that it should be a good, green pasture that has not been used by turkeys or chickens for at least one, or preferably two years. If the birds are reared on sun porches, allow three to four square feet per bird, to maturity. Wooden slats, 1½ by 1-inch, spaced an inch apart, are more satisfactory than wire. ✓

### Forced Summer Moults

IT is risky to keep hens over the moult for a second year, but sometimes it is worthwhile. If the value of hens, as meat, is not too high, and if the flock has been healthy and produced well, and the egg market looks promising, it might pay to do it.

The Canada Department of Agriculture says that the practice of forced moulting has cut the cost of keeping hens over. In trying it on one flock of 350 Leghorns, the birds were put on good alfalfa pasture and supplied with ample drinking water. They were allowed the alfalfa as their only feed for the first five days, and then two ounces of oats per bird were fed daily. After 23 days on the oat diet, they were allowed free access to separate hoppers of chick starter, whole wheat and oats. Two weeks later, the hens were returned to the laying houses and fed a hatching mash with wheat, oats and barley.

At 1953 prices, the cost of the feed during the six weeks the hens were on range amounted to about 24 cents per bird. Egg production started to climb soon after the hens were returned to laying quarters. ✓



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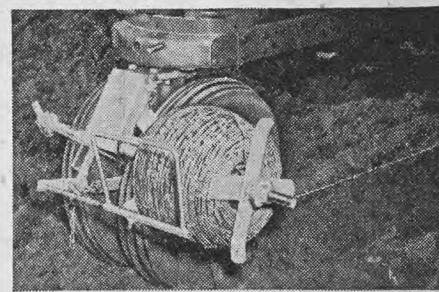
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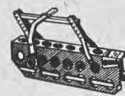
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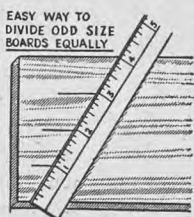


WORKSHOP

# Handy Ideas For June

This month's workshop features easy dividing of a board, saving power in transmission, and other useful hints

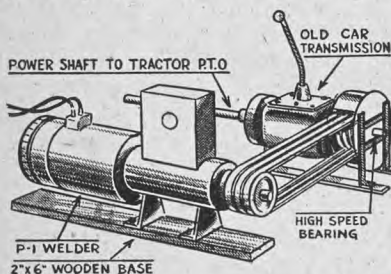
**Dividing Board Easily.** A convenient and quick method of dividing a board into equal parts without the use of awkward fractions, is shown. Here a three- and - five-eighths-inch board is to be divided into four equal parts; this is done by placing a rule diagonally across the board to a number that is evenly divisible by four, and then marking it at the one, two and three positions. If it were to be divided into five parts the number would be divisible by five, and so on.—O.T.



**Block-and-Tackle Holder.** If you are stretching a fence and your block-and-tackle has no locking device you can hold the tension by fastening vise-grip pliers to the rope in such a way that they bear against the block, as shown.—H.E.F.



**Tractor-Driven Welder.** I drive my arc welder with the power take-off from the tractor. The welder is made from a P. 1 Westinghouse aircraft generator designed to run at 2,500 to 3,000 r.p.m. I took a 5-6-inch pitch



diameter V-pulley on the engine drive end, and a 4-6-inch p.d. pulley is mounted on the welder. A high-speed bearing must be mounted on the transmission, as shown. A spline coupling is welded to the far end of the drive shaft from the rear of the transmission, to fit the tractor p.t.o. The p.t.o. speed is 600 r.p.m. and running the transmission in reverse gives the welder the proper speed and direction of travel, though pulley sizes may have to be varied with different makes of tractors and transmissions. V-belts reduce slippage and mounting the machine on a wheeled frame makes it portable.—Ivan S.

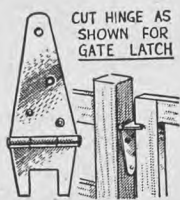
**Easy File Cleaning.** Before you begin filing brass, copper or aluminum rub the teeth of the file with a cake of carpenter's chalk. All you have to do to clean it is to tap it against the bench occasionally. Renew the chalk coating from time to time.—S.I.E.



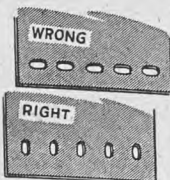
**Tire Cow Poke.** Using the device shown I have stopped my cows from jumping fences. I cut about 12 inches out of an old car tire and put a chain through holes in the opposite side. I fastened the chain around the cow's neck, and had no more trouble with jumping.—R.I.L.



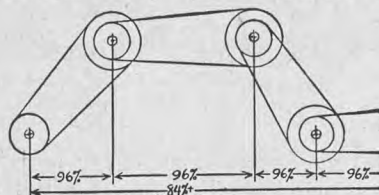
**Gate Latch.** I made a gate latch out of an old hinge. It was about eight inches long and three inches wide. I cut it as shown in the illustration, and nailed it to the gate post. Nail it so it will fall to the horizontal position.—W.B.G.



**Weakening Belts.** When lacing a belt it is important to cut away as little of the stressed material as possible. The holes should be elliptical, and should be cut in such a way that the long axis of the hole lies parallel with the belt. If the long axis lies across the belt, the belt will be weakened.—W.F.S.



**Power Losses.** If belts are arranged as shown in the sketch a large percentage of power may be lost. If the power source is in the lower right hand corner four per cent of the motor's power is lost between the motor and the line shaft. If power is carried on to another pulley the efficiency will again be only 96 per cent. If the extension of power is carried on



through four assemblies, as shown, the power efficiency will be 0.96 x 0.96 x 0.96 x 0.96 or 84 per cent. With a belt drive the efficiency will be much lower, and driving through three such assemblies the efficiency may well be down to 40 per cent. These losses are reduced by belting as directly as possible to the source of power, and if drive pulleys can be placed directly on the motor shaft the saving will be worth while.—W.F.S.

**Thermometer Protector.** To prevent breaking the thermometer that I use in the milk house I slipped a six-sided eraser over the end. This prevents it rolling off a table or holds it above hard surfaces.—J.I.H.



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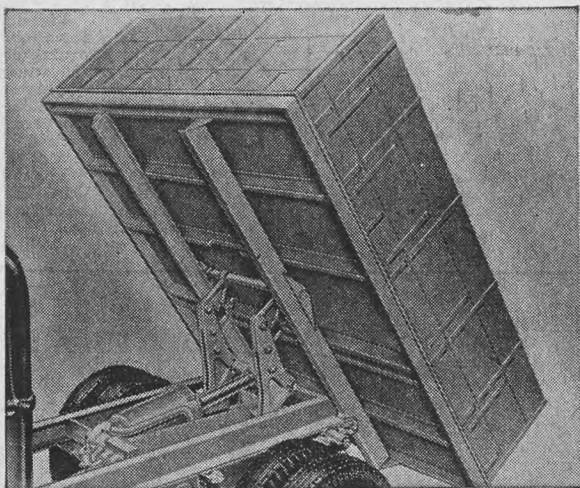
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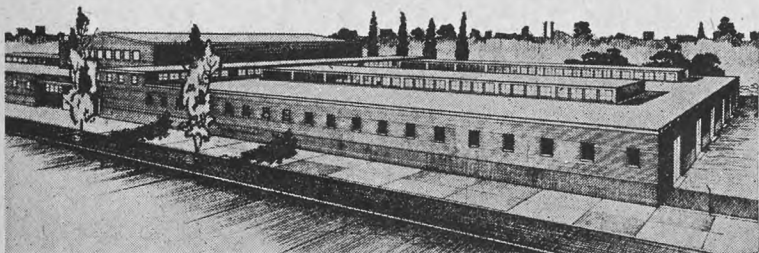
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**FARM YOUNG PEOPLE****What Makes a Successful Year?**

*Here are the thoughts of one young farmer in measuring the success of a year's activities*

A SPEAKER who has successfully taken part in the work of farm youth organizations, during the past few years, suggests a way to sum up the year's activities. It's one of the best summaries we have seen for some time, and we pass it on to readers of The Country Guide.

"Let us look at the year that is passed. What has happened to you, which makes you better prepared to face tomorrow?"

"Did you participate in a field day and learn the strength of teamwork? Did you attend camp and learn the joy of living with your fellow man and working together so both might have a better life? Did you sing in the choir or musical group and learn the pleasures of participating in cultural activities? Did you attend church and come to know the benefits of a Christian fellowship?"

"Did you attend a leadership school and learn how to handle more efficiently your junior farmer meeting?"

with your parents as to the operation of the home farm? Did you meet the boy or girl you intend to marry?

"Did you travel in a group in another country or in your own country and learn the problems facing your neighbors beyond your own concession? Did you meet someone from another country and find out what you had in common? Did you share ideas with others or meet new friends at conferences and conventions?"

**Dairy Competition For Juniors**

A NEW competition has been planned for Ontario this year, in which two junior farmers will be selected for the provincial awards of Dairy Maid and Dairy Man for 1954. It will be staged in June at the second annual Dairy Day of the province, and as well as deciding the winner of these two awards, will also see the winning county team chosen for proficiency in milk production.

Under the rules of the competition, each county is to select one team of two junior farmer candidates. The team may be composed of two boys, two girls, or a boy and a girl, all between the ages of 17 and 24, and all of whom have completed five 4-H club projects. They must be residents on dairy farms. Each team will demonstrate milking methods, with one member giving a commentary throughout the competition. The cows will be milked, the milk filtered and stored, and equipment washed and sterilized. Each contestant, too, will answer a brief set of questions about milk production, before the winners are chosen.



*This young Indian is trying hard to keep up to his big brother.*

**Young Farmers Visit Alberta**

ALBERTA is playing host to two young Ontario farm people this summer. The pair are spending three weeks in the province on an exchange visit. They represent the Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario, an organization of young farm people in that province who have passed the age for 4-H club work. They are Donald Middleton, president of the organization, from Middlesex County, which is in the London district, and Myrtle Stewart, an executive committee member of the association whose home is in Dufferin County, northwest of Toronto.

The Ontario delegates will attend a conference of the junior section of the Farmers' Union of Alberta at the University of Alberta in Edmonton. Then, one will live on farms in the Peace River area, and the other in southern Alberta. The visit is part of a yearly exchange, which has been carried on with young farm people in Alberta since 1950. Every two years, a pair of young Alberta farmers visit in Ontario, while in the alternate years, Ontario sends delegates to Alberta.

Did you serve as an officer in your club and learn how to get others to help themselves and you? Did you debate or speak in competition, or even stand up and state your views at a meeting, learning how to express yourself so that others may understand? Did you have the privilege of leading others in discussion, recreation or singing, and experience the joy of helping others to understand and enjoy themselves? Did you hear a speaker suggest how you might better enjoy yourself in your community?

"Did you participate in a club project and learn the joy of working with people? Did you complete some project which made you better informed on livestock, crops, and soils, the very essentials of agriculture? Did you discover how to make a new desert, or iron a shirt, preparing yourself for a happy life as a homemaker? Did you come to a satisfactory agreement

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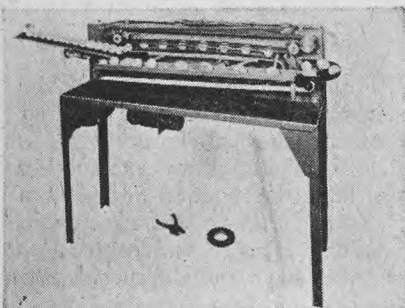
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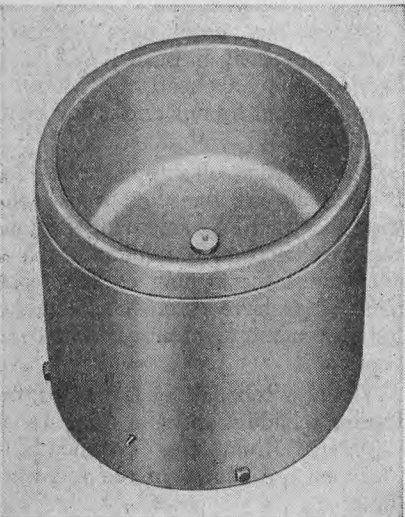


## WHAT'S NEW

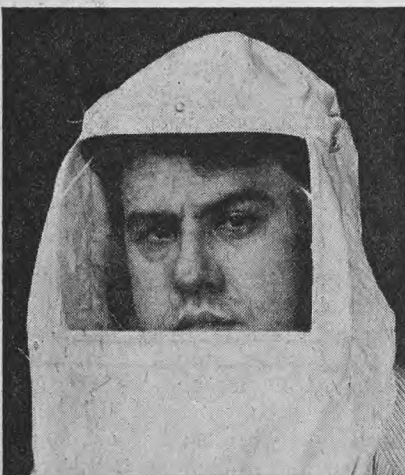
For further information about any item mentioned in this column, write to What's New Department, The Country Guide, 290 Vaughan St., Winnipeg, giving the key number shown in parenthesis at the end of each item, as—(17).



This dry egg cleaner is said to have a capacity of 1,000 eggs per hour. Seven eggs are under the cleaning operation at one time, for 30 seconds each. The machine has an automatic egg-size control, provided by a new-type, rubber carrier belt. (Egomatic Candler and Grader.) (35) ✓

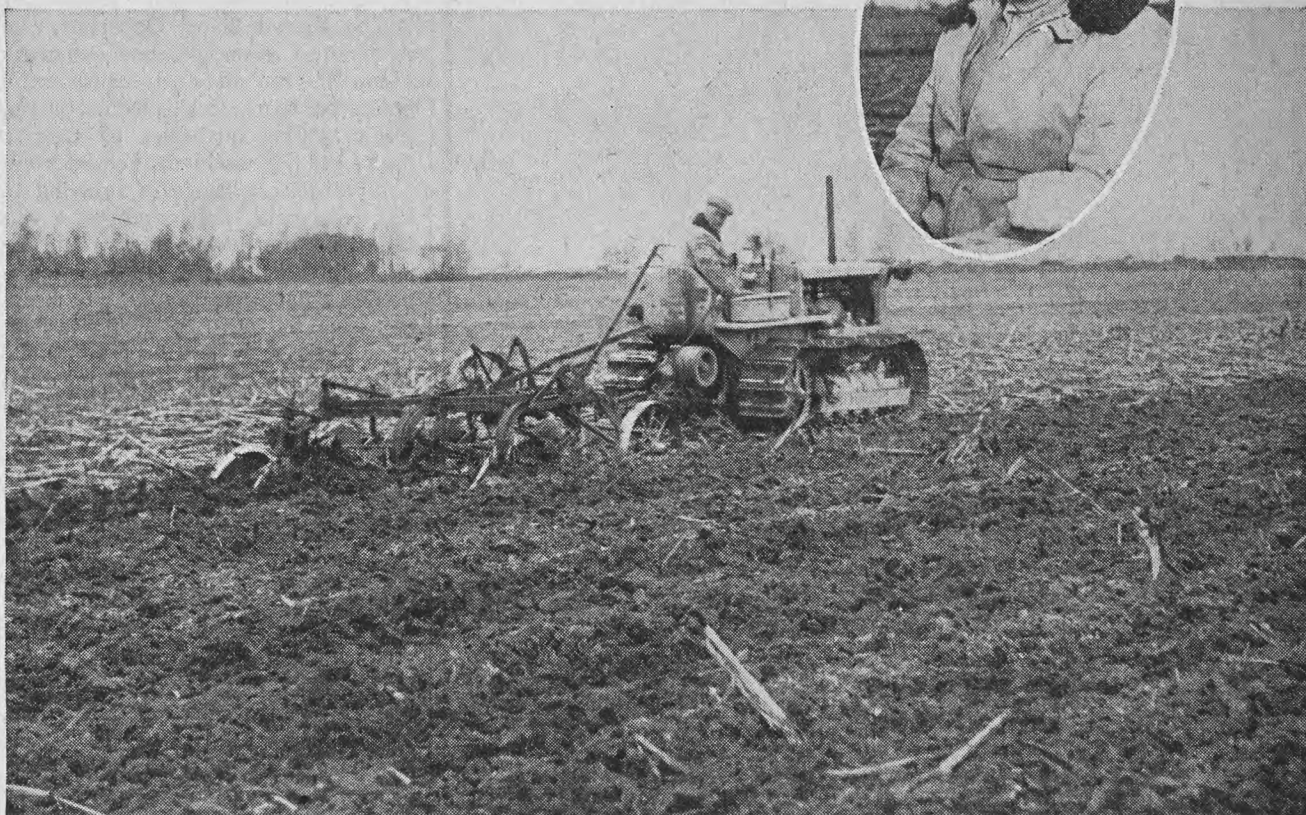


This cast aluminum, automatic-electric livestock waterer operates without a float valve or treadle. A special type pressure valve, controlled by the weight of the water in the master bowl, is opened or closed as required to maintain a predetermined level. This is said to permit the use of an unlimited number of inexpensive slave units at different places and different heights, for pigs and lambs, as well as cattle and horses. (Rhinehart Manufacturing Co., Inc.) (36) ✓



This dust hood to protect eyes, head, face and neck from irritating dusts weighs only five ounces, and is said to be easy to wear. (General Scientific Equipment Co.) (37) ✓

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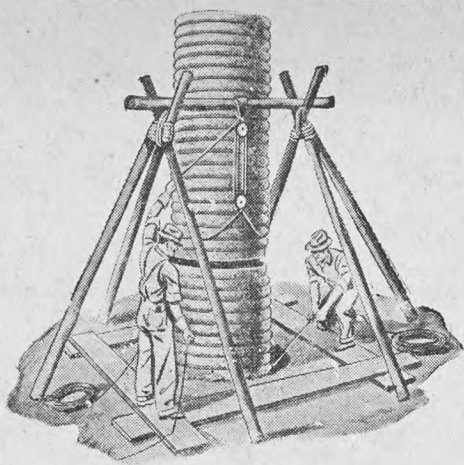
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### U.S. Revises Export Sales Policy on Feed Grains

The United States Department of Agriculture recently announced a revision in the nation's export sales policy on coarse grains which would place surplus quantities of these grains on the world markets at competitive prices. Presently applying to flax, corn, oats, barley and rye, it was intimated that the policy would be applied eventually to all farm commodities in excess supply. (In keeping with the new policy it was announced recently that government-held surplus butter stocks would be made available for export at world market prices.)

U.S. exporters have claimed they were being denied access to world markets for feed grains and other agricultural products because U.S.D.A. stocks were too high in price to compete with foreign suppliers. The new plan will enable them to bid for sales at subsidized prices similar to the one under which surplus wheat has been offered for sale since last December. Export allowance rates to be used in establishing prices for such grains will be announced by U.S.D.A. from time to time. The allowances will be on a cents-per-bushel basis designed to permit exporters to sell abroad at world prices "as determined by the C.C.C."

The agricultural department reserved the right to reject bids and to determine delivery points abroad.

Reports are that the United States has assured Canada and other exporting countries that the new surplus disposal program will not be permitted to depress world market prices. It is difficult to envisage additional supplies on the world market without the effect of easing prices downward.

Canada's Trade Minister, The Right Hon. C. D. Howe, informed the Commons at Ottawa recently that the situation was being watched closely. He stated it was difficult to assess the situation "until we can be sure just what they mean by world prices." However, Canada has never viewed with particular favor programs for subsidizing exports.

### Additional Delivery Quotas for Rye Producers

Farm producers in certain areas of the prairie provinces normally produce considerable quantities of rye in relation to their production of other crops. In order to assist producers in this position, the Canadian Wheat Board at the end of April, announced its readiness "to authorize the delivery of a limited quantity of rye over and above the quantities which can be delivered under the current specified acreage."

Subject to space being available at the producer's delivery point authorizations for the delivery of additional quantities of rye are being made on the following basis:

Where the acreage seeded to rye in 1953 bears the following percentage relationship to the total acreage seeded for all grains (wheat, oats, barley, rye and flax) for that year—

- (a) Over 50 to 60 per cent—  
1 bushel per seeded acre of rye
- (b) Over 60 to 70 per cent—  
2 bushels per seeded acre of rye
- (c) Over 70 to 80 per cent—  
3 bushels per seeded acre of rye
- (d) Over 80 to 90 per cent—  
4 bushels per seeded acre of rye
- (e) Over 90 per cent—  
5 bushels per seeded acre of rye

Producers wishing to avail themselves of this provision are required to contact their local elevator agent who should make application to the Board providing the required information. It is stressed that no deliveries over the existing quota can be accepted by the elevator agent until a special permit has been received from the Board.

### Lakehead Shipping Charges Reduced

A new contract reducing rates on all Great Lake grain shipments has been completed by the Canadian Wheat Board and the Great Lakes shipping operators. Charges on grain shipments between the Lakehead and Georgian Bay ports have been reduced one cent a bushel and rates between the Lakehead and Montreal have been cut by one and a half cents a bushel.

The question of shipping rates has been in dispute for some weeks with the result that lake shipments of grain were reduced to a minimum. However, since the signing of the agreement ships have commenced loading for movement to Montreal and overseas ports.

The new schedule of lake rates, the former schedule and the rail rate on shipments from the Lakehead to Montreal are shown in the following table:

	New Rate	Former Rate	Rail
Wheat	14½	16	33
Rye	14½	16	31 9/10
Barley	13¾	15½	27½
Oats	12½	14	—

The equivalent rates on grain movements from the Lakehead terminals to Georgian Bay ports are as follows:

	New Rate	Former Rate	Lake Rate
Wheat	4½	5½	30
Rye	4½	5½	29
Barley	4¼	4¼	25
Oats	4	5	—

The Wheat Board demand for a reduction in lake shipping rates followed as a consequence of all grain rate cuts by United States companies.

### The Japanese Market

A growing market for Canadian grain exports is apparent in Japan where bread is becoming increasingly popular among the younger Japanese. During the last crop year Canada exported some 15 million bushels of wheat and wheat flour to that country in addition to 19 million bushels of barley. With a population of around 87 million persons and increasing by more than one million annually this market should continue to expand.



# COMMENTARY

The probability is that bread consumption will continue to rise if butter and margarine continue to be made available to the public at reasonable prices. An encouraging fact is that bread now forms part of the Japanese school lunch program, a policy which will ensure continued popularity of the bread grains.

The demand for pressed or processed barley is also rising steadily and showed a very substantial increase in 1953. The development of pressed or processed barley evolved in Japan where it is consumed as a boiled grain food mixed with rice. At the present time there are more than 3,000 pressed barley mills in Japan of which the combined output is estimated at 1,500 thousand metric tons. Pressed barley is highly regarded as a palatable boiled grain food and is gaining in popularity.

The change in dietary habits of the Japanese people from rice to wheat and barley has developed as a result of a shortage of rice and the higher price of rice compared with wheat and barley. While the change has not been entirely a willing one on the part of the Japanese population, the magnitude of the continuing change is indicated by the fact that the consumption of wheat products increased by almost 50 per cent from 1952 to 1953.

Because of her limited agricultural resources and a growing domestic population Japan must continue to rely on grain imports to meet the needs of her people. The cost of grain imports was \$246 million in the 1951 fiscal year; \$399 million in 1952; and an estimated \$560 million in 1953.

The important consideration influencing the purchase of Canadian wheat and barley is the availability of foreign exchange. Because Canadian wheat and barley are popular with Japanese processors it may be anticipated that Canada will share in any increase of purchases of these two grains. The ability of Japan to finance such purchases depends upon her dollar earnings which have been substantial during the past three years.

## U.S. Crop Situation

According to estimates by the United States Department of Agriculture, a further large output of farm products is in prospect for this year if farm producers carry out their March 1 planting intentions. Total intended seeded acreage of 16 crops covered in the report was placed at more than 282 million acres, 11 million acres greater than the acreage in 1953.

The 1954 feed grain acreage is expected to be greater than in 1953 due largely to land taken out of production of wheat, cotton and corn. As of March 1, farmers planned increases over 1953 acreages of seven per cent in oats, 28 per cent in sorghums, 47 per cent in barley and three per cent in hay.

While there is expected a substantial reduction in corn acreage this year, the reduction will probably not be sufficient to fall in line with acreage allotments. Consequently it would seem that little of the 1954 corn crop

will be eligible for price support. If the crop is a large one corn prices therefore are likely to fall well below the support level at harvest time. The 1954 support price for farmers planting within their acreage allotments in commercial corn areas will be based on a national average rate of not less than \$1.62 per bushel, two cents higher than last year.

Price supports on 1954 crops of other feed grains were announced last October. The national average support price for barley will be \$1.15 per bushel; oats 75 cents per bushel; and grain sorghums \$2.28 per hundredweight.

The Agricultural Department raised its estimate of winter wheat output to 707 million bushels as of May 1 conditions. The previous estimate of 678 million bushels on April 1 was revised upward as the result of improved prospects in the midwestern states. While April rains accounted for better prospects in that region it was reported that conditions were only "slightly improved" in the drought areas of the southwest.

Added to the March 1 estimate of production of 223 million bushels of spring wheat, the U.S. has in prospect a total 1954 wheat crop of 930 million bushels. Although a crop of this size would represent a decline of 20 per cent from last year's production it would still be approximately 40 million bushels in excess of the domestic rate of consumption.

Prices for the 1954 wheat crop will be supported at 90 per cent of parity—not less than a national average of \$2.20 per bushel. Except for soft red wheat and amber durum, wheat prices have been recently near the highest levels of the 1953-54 marketing year. Large quantities of wheat taken by the Commodity Credit Corporation have reduced considerably the supply in the regular trade channels.

## Final Figures on 1952-53 Wheat Pool

The revised figures for the 1952-53 wheat pool are contained in the supplementary report of the Canadian Wheat Board tabled recently in the House of Commons at Ottawa. Final figures for receipts from producers totalled 533,016,978 bushels; receipts from other than producers and 103,208,409 bushels transferred from the 1951-52 pool brought total stocks in the 1952-53 pool to 638,335,770 bushels.

Net unsold stocks on July 31, 1953, totalled 250,194,512 bushels. Wheat and wheat flour exports during the first six months of the current crop year were 138,300,000 bushels and while this was well above average it was far below the 190,700,000 bushels exported during the same period of the previous year.

The Wheat Board's operating costs from August 1, 1952, to January 30, 1954, were \$41,972,736. Of this amount \$2,208,003 was recovered through the six cents per bushel carrying charge on I.W.A. and domestic sales.



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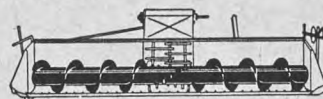
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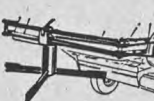
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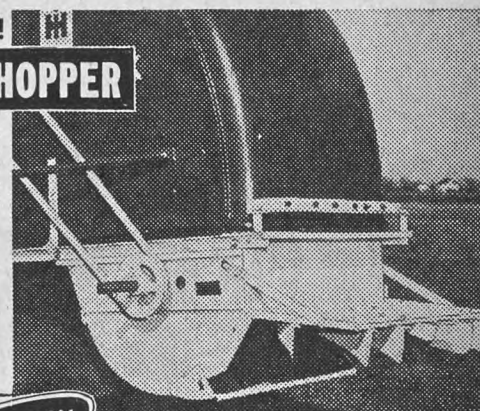
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# Robber In the Garden

*The caragana exemplifies the old adage: a place for everything and everything in its place*

by V. M. HIGGINS

FOR years western gardeners have been advised and encouraged to plant more hedges and shelterbelts around our gardens. They would protect the gardens from strong drying winds and heavy storms, especially in flat, treeless locations without other protection. They would form a barrier to prevent the escape of snow, forcing it to remain in big drifts of necessary moisture on the garden. Last, but not least, they would add to the attractiveness of our farms and the country in general.

It was generally believed, some 15 or 20 years ago, that the caragana was best suited to our extreme climate, as a source of good, quick-growing, sturdy, hedging material. Brought here from a climate equally rigorous, the plant fitted into our seasons like a native. Certainly it was easy to grow, with its grey-green foliage and bright yellow pea-blossoms, and both farmers and town-dwellers seized it with open arms. Villagers planted it all around their yards. Some of the more persistent trained theirs to meet in a clipped round arch over a gate, with striking effect. Teachers and pupils planted hedges around hundreds of school yards, and most of these grew. Farmers planted rows and rows of them, usually in combination with

other trees. One of those combinations, consisting of two rows of Russian poplars, two rows of maples, and one thick row of unpruned caragana, is the handsomest shelterbelt in its neighborhood. These caraganas are much taller than the average, and much more graceful and natural in appearance than the trimmed hedges which require so much more work, while the variegated foliage of the three varieties provides a lovely background for the farm buildings and garden.

The drawback is that flowers or vegetables will not grow properly within 30 feet of a caragana hedge, and 30 feet off each side of the garden leaves only a very small strip in the middle which can be cultivated successfully.

This has given caragana hedges a black mark in many parts of Canada. These strong, tough plants require plenty of moisture, and they go right after it. Caragana roots often reach out 40 feet or more for moisture. The small plants, when first set out, do not require so much moisture, but as they become lusty, thriving, quickly growing plants, those thirsty roots reach farther and farther into your garden or lawn, absorbing more and more moisture and nutrients from the soil.

Even on farms, many former enthusiasts are disgusted with caragana, and have got rid of it to make room for other hedges less grasping. Many are planting evergreens of various types, which are equally attractive in winter or summer, and long-lived as an added attraction. The red elder is growing more popular every year, with its creamy flowers and attractive berries in large, striking clusters, and lilacs are as popular as ever, with their glossy foliage and fragrant early blossoms. The native poplar, Manitoba maple and several types of hardy willows are still holding their own. A few people are experimenting with the quick-growing, hardy native cranberry, whose oddly shaped leaves take on gorgeous tints with the autumn frosts. Also, the cranberry is a prolific producer of beautifully tinted berries, ranging from pale green, waxy yellow, brilliant orange to bright glowing crimson in the fall. These berries are most attractive to birds, with their propensity for remaining on the bushes all winter, but they also make a most tasty and piquant flavored jelly, thus endearing themselves to our practical minded housewives.

Many of the village gardeners, having been once-stung, are proving themselves twice-shy, by planting only annual hedges, which require much less moisture and permit closer planting, as well as the added advantage of being able to change hedges as quickly and easily as changing one's brand of fertilizer. In the front yard, where ornamental hedging is desired, kochia is very popular, resembling a small evergreen, but cleome, cosmos,

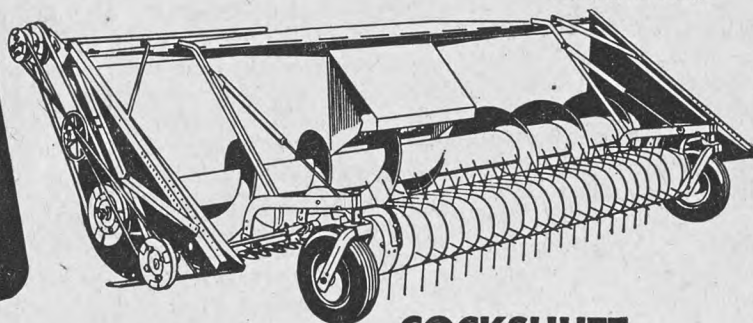
lavatera or dahlias make most decorative and well-formed hedges, besides bearing handsome flowers later in the season.

Around the garden itself, sunflowers, especially the dwarf variety, have been found a most satisfactory wind-break with their thick, tough stems, and their seeds are most useful for adding to poultry rations later on, as well as excellent winter food for birds. The stems, if left to stand all winter, will cause quite as much snow to drift on the garden as will the conventional hedge, but without robbing the growing plants of their moisture.

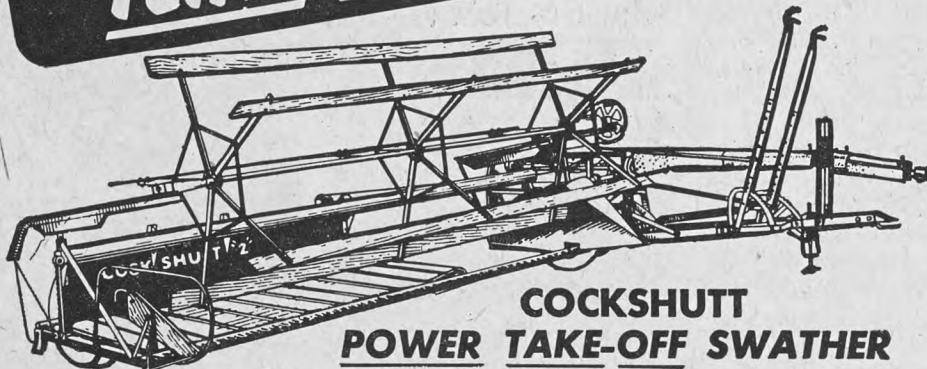
There is no doubt, then, that caragana as a hedge is considerably less popular than it was 20 years ago, but it is still a good, tough, hardy variety which is definitely suited to our climatic conditions, and should be used as such. Most of the trouble which gave it such a bad name among gardeners was caused by a misunderstanding. Such a strong-growing plant should never have been planted so indiscriminately. It should only be used where there is plenty of room, not where space is at a premium.

Planted at a distance of at least 50 feet from the garden or lawn, it should provide an attractive and durable background and shelter, without damaging garden production or absorbing needed moisture, and there are few plants which can provide as much shelter in as short a period of growth, or survive under such discouragement as the caragana. It can still be a most useful plant in Canada, provided we use discrimination in planting it where its predatory nature can do no harm.

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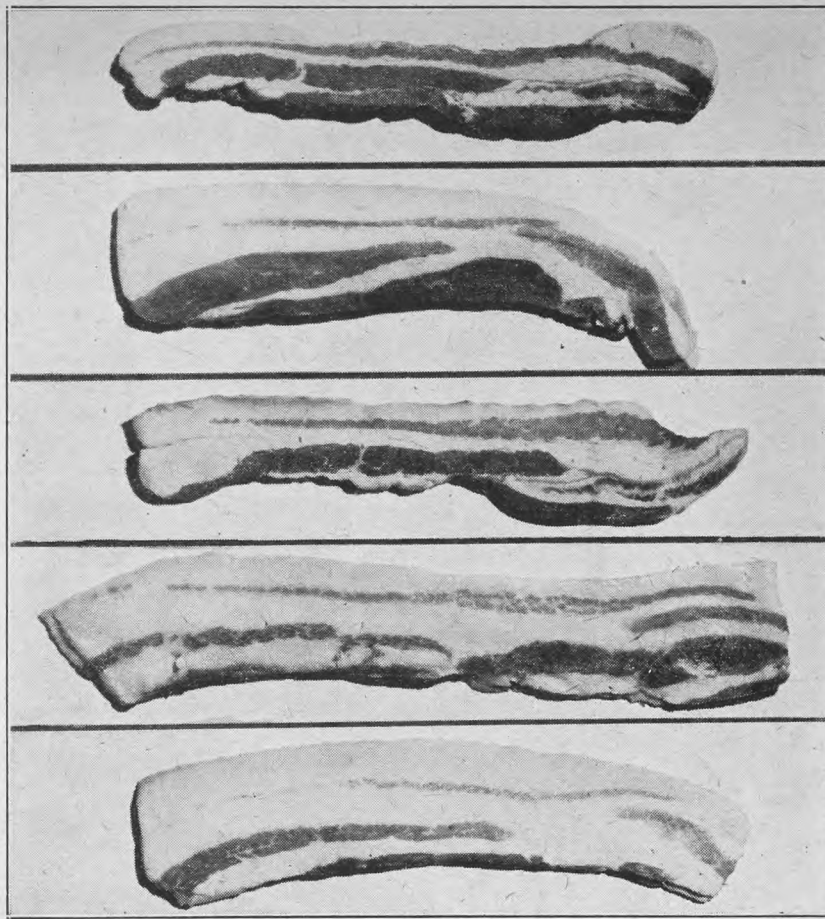
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The CANADA PAINT CO. Limited



Royal Winter Fair visitors last fall were asked to comment on these five strips of bacon. Percentages of lean were measured before the bacon went on display, and from top to bottom, were: 49.2, 37.5, 33.9, 28.0, and 20.4. The center strip was most often preferred, while next came the very lean one at top. Then came the second from the top, next the fourth, and finally the visitors agreed that the lower strip was altogether too fat. Would you agree that the top strip is much too lean for tasty bacon, and that the abundance of lean in the second strip, if better distributed, as it is in the fourth strip, would represent nearly ideal bacon?

## Better Bacon Is Required

*Consumers complain more about bacon than any other food, but are confused as to the characteristics of a good product*

CANADIAN housewives are unhappy about the bacon they buy. S. C. Barry, chief, Marketing Service, Canada Department of Agriculture, says that consumers complain to the department about bacon, more than about any other commodity. Speaking at Winnipeg some time ago, Mr. Barry said: "I imagine all of us have frequent criticism from friends and acquaintances on the quality of packaged, sliced bacon," and he emphasized that this "simply is not sound business for the hog industry, if anything can be done about it."

In spite of this dissatisfaction, he pointed out that there seems to be a growing indifference among farmers in Canada about producing hogs that cut out grade A carcasses.

That's why the Department decided to learn, if possible, the kind of bacon that Canadian housewives prefer to buy. Samples of sliced bacon were selected, ranging from overly-fat to very lean. These were displayed at the Royal Winter Fair, Toronto, last fall, and visitors to the fair were asked to fill out cards indicating their preferences. Over 4,000 cards were turned in, and from these, said Mr. Barry, it became apparent that the general preference is for bacon with good strips of lean interspersed with fat.

"The highest rating sample had 32 per cent lean (area of lean of each slice was measured), but it had a good interspersal of fat and lean. The lean-

est sample did not quite top the list. A lot of people appeared to like it, but there was a substantial number, about 25 per cent, who said it was unacceptable. The two fattest samples were at the bottom in preference rating."

With some idea of the likes and dislikes of consumers, the next job was to discover the kind of hogs that produce the bacon preferred by housewives and to determine whether some system of grading could be carried right through to the meat counter. For farmers know full well that although they are paid on a graded basis for the hogs they sell, the only indication of quality the meat bears when it is sold over the counter is the brand name.

It was found that sorting sides does not ensure reasonable uniformity in the sliced bacon obtained from them, and certainly the industry could not take time to grade each individual slice. Nevertheless, standardized grading of breakfast bacon was still not out of the question. The difficulties of grading eggs and other farm products have been overcome, and these products are now sold to the mutual benefit of both consumer and producer.

To discover any difference between the average qualities of bacon coming from different grades of carcasses, a group of sides from various sections of the country were cut up. From this study, it was apparent that: (1) quality in side bacon does not con-



sistently follow carcass grades; (2) there seems to be a higher percentage of good slices from the A grade carcass; (3) there is a considerable range in quality in any one slab of bacon, and (4) there seems to be no consistent relationship between carcass weight and belly quality.

More work on this subject is obviously required, but any good system of grading bacon could be of benefit to the swine industry. V

## Save on That Cream Separator

by V. M. HIGGINS

SO you're buying a new cream separator! Not the new electric model you'd like to select if the hydro had arrived, or even if the grain markets looked a bit more promising. Instead, a good, durable, hand-powered model such as is used on hundreds of farms in mixed farming districts all across Canada. You need it to replace the old one you've coddled along for the last few years.

Would you like to save from ten to fifteen dollars on that new one? Most of us would; certainly *we* wanted to, and when we checked, we found that to be the difference between the bench model and the type which came with its own stand.

The trouble was, we didn't like the bench idea. A bench never does look as neat as the original stand, and usually is not as solid, let alone the time it takes to make it perfectly level, which is essential to the good performance and long life of any separator.

That was when we noticed that there was nothing wrong with the stand we had, and that being separate from the top, there was nothing to stop us from using the same one. True, the enamel was chipped in a few spots, but a small can of matching enamel could be ordered with the separator. Also, besides the difference in the price of the bench model, there was also a substantial saving to be made on freight, a costly item these days on even small shipments.

Feeling pretty smug, we ordered the bench model. We didn't feel quite so self-satisfied when, upon arrival, we found that the holes for the bolts didn't come within inches of each other; the stand having a much smaller top surface. But the man of the house soon remedied that by squaring off a block of wood about two inches thick, five inches wide and ten inches long, bolting it solidly to the stand, then bolting the new separator to the top of the block. He allowed space for the device for tightening the bowl-nut, as well. This he fastened down securely at the back of the block, where it is not only out of the way, but uses no extra space. In any case, the supply tank would not permit placing the machine close to the wall.

It is a good idea to wash the stand thoroughly before applying the enamel, to remove every vestige of oil. One coat is usually sufficient for the stand itself, but the wooden block may require a second coat to give a satisfactory finish. The completed job looks both neat and attractive, and, of course, while the enamel is drying, you can sit down with a cup of coffee and plan just how to use that twelve-odd dollars you have saved! V

# IT'S NEW!





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**NOW...one grease, specially made for every moving part on every piece of equipment on your farm**

New Esso Multipurpose is formulated to coat metal surfaces with a tacky layer of grease that stays put. It strings out to seal bearings from the damaging action of water and dirt ... gives you smoother running equipment ... adds to the life of every machine you use.


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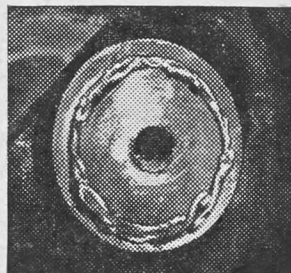
Whether it's a heavily loaded, high speed bearing or a spring shackle, exposed to water and dirt, Esso Multipurpose Grease gives money-saving protection.

Give your  
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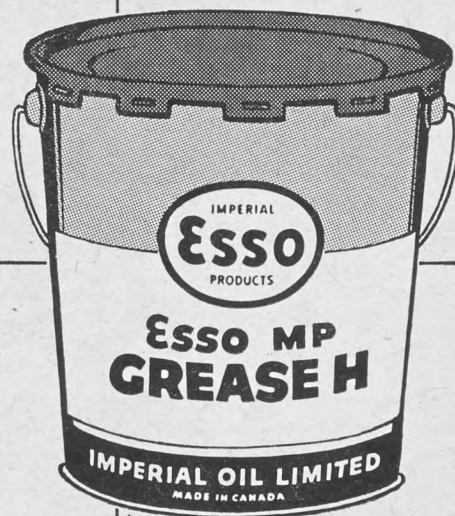
 One grease, saves time, saves bother, saves money in the long run.

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ALWAYS LOOK TO IMPERIAL FOR THE BEST



# WOOL

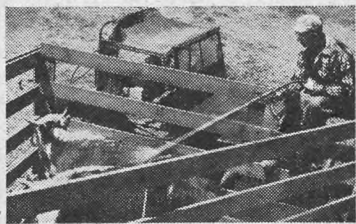
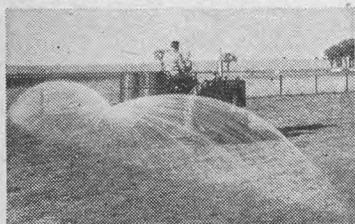
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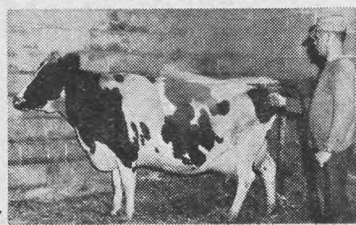
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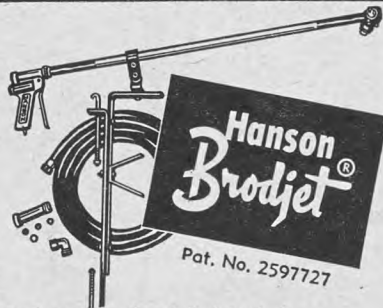
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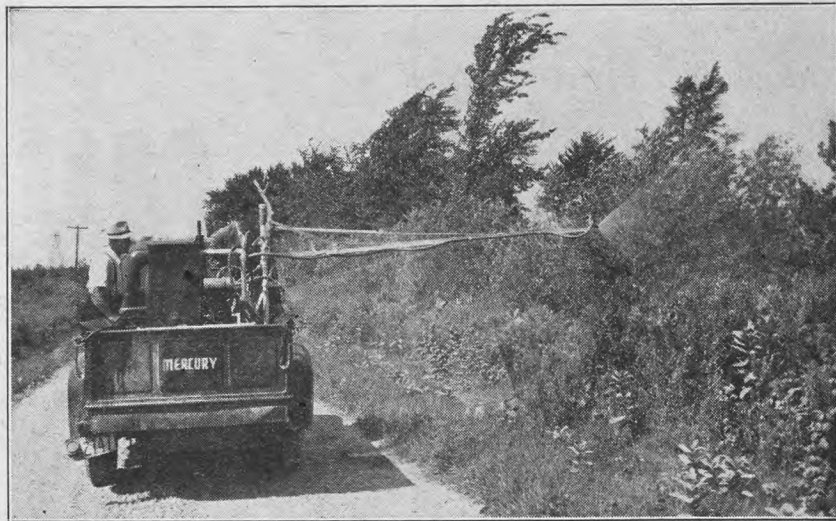
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## For Better Roadside Spraying

*First chemical control of brush and weeds, then special sprayers, improved chemicals and still better sprayers — so runs the tale of progress*

by VERA FIDLER



A No. 80 wide jet nozzle up at the sprayer, and a No. 150 on the end of the boom cover the entire roadside.

**W**EEDES growing along roadsides and spreading into farmers' fields are always a problem. With this in mind, a couple of engineers at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, decided that something should be done about making a cheaper type of roadside sprayer.

After playing around with the idea, they developed a sprayer which not only costs less than the old kind, but does a better job. In fact, when tests were carried out in co-operation with the Crops, Seeds and Weeds Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture, their model proved so satisfactory that it is now being manufactured at Grimsby, Ontario. It is being sold for around \$1,000, or less than half the price of a comparable sprayer of the older type.

First of all, the engineers decided to use a centrifugal pump, instead of the usual piston type. Besides costing less in the first place, this pump, having few moving parts, requires a minimum of maintenance. It has sufficient capacity to supply the necessary amount of liquid to the nozzle, at an operating pressure of 40 pounds per square inch, and it has a high capacity when filling the tank. Also, it is self-priming and abrasive-resistant, which are definite advantages, since the water for spraying is often obtained from ponds or streams. With this pump, too, a separate engine and pump are not required for filling the tank.

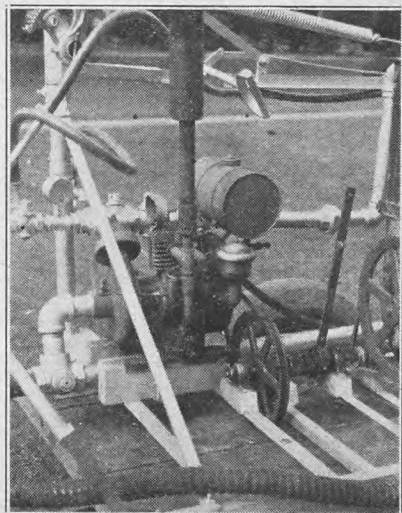
The other and, according to officials at the Experimental Farm, most important difference in this new sprayer, is the use of wide-jet spray nozzles, both on the sprayer and at the end of the boom. With these, clogging is eliminated, a wider stream of spray can be thrown and still give a good uniform coverage. Also, because of the large size of the droplets, drifting of the spray is lessened, thus decreasing the possibility of damage to roadside crops. Such plants as tomatoes, peas, beans, potatoes and tobacco are susceptible to the chemicals used to kill weeds, and while a farmer appreciates roadsides being kept clean, hav-

ing his crops injured in the process is certainly not to his liking.

Another advantage of the large nozzle is that the sprayer can be successfully used for spraying and whitewashing barns and other buildings, as well as for limited pasture spraying.

However, the unit was primarily developed for roadside spraying, and most tests were made for this purpose. The most satisfactory arrangement was found to be the use of two wide-jet nozzles—a No. 80 mounted close to the sprayer and a No. 150 at the end of the boom. The nozzle on the sprayer gives adequate coverage on narrow roadways, where weeds alone are to be controlled. On wider roadways, or where there is brush, the other nozzle is mounted on the boom, and used in conjunction with the sprayer. A simple flexible boom is employed, which gives good directional control of the spray, provides coverage of all plants, and at the same time such obstacles as mail boxes, telephone poles and trees can be easily by-passed.

**N**ATURALLY, the amount of spray applied to a given area is governed by the rate of speed at which the truck is driven, the size of the

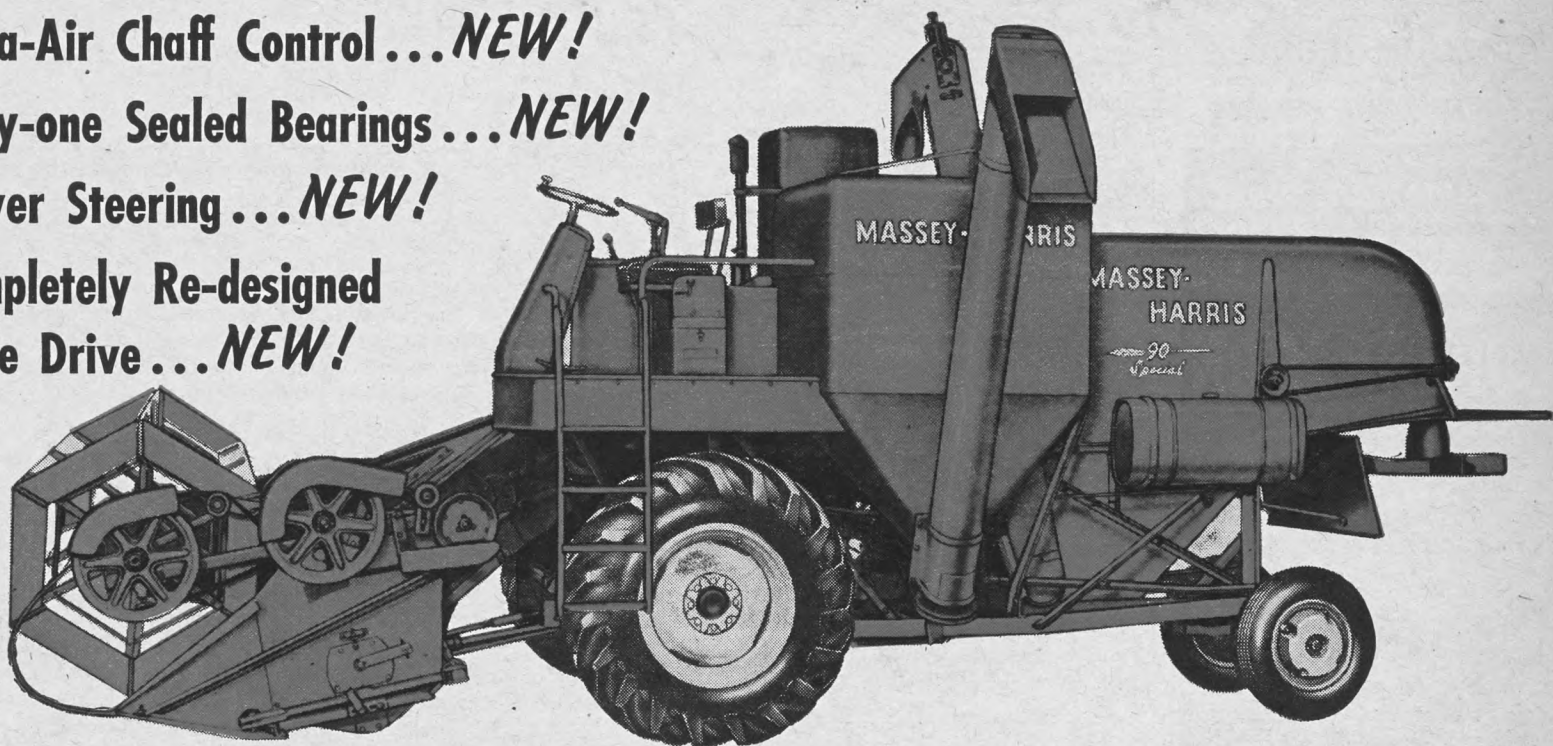


This is the pump developed at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.



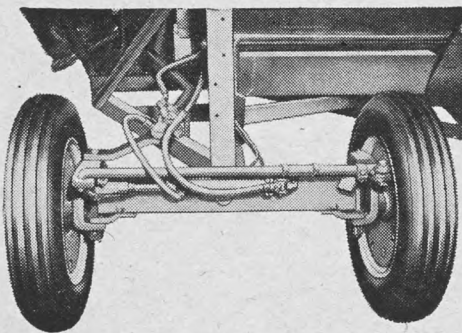
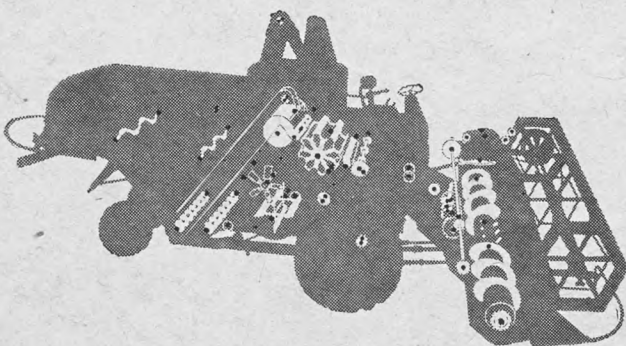
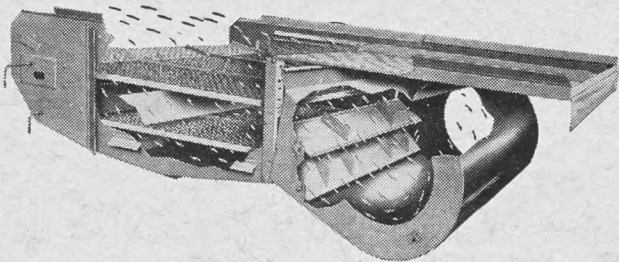
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1. Dyna-Air Chaff Control...*NEW!*
2. Sixty-one Sealed Bearings...*NEW!*
3. Power Steering...*NEW!*
4. Completely Re-designed Knife Drive...*NEW!*



For the second year in a row M-H 90 and 80 combines are making "headline news" in farming circles... with sweeping changes... basic improvements. In addition to the four major developments listed above, they are equipped with... interlock brakes... improved table lift rams... self-closing exhaust pipe cap... fanning mill speed adjustment... stop leak bottoms in elevators... easy adjusting chain drives... in fact, a total of 45 different additions, big and small.

These additions put M-H 90 and 80 Specials in the "gold medal" class for perfection of design... for ability to do a superb job in any crop... any year.



**DYNA-AIR CHAFF CONTROL:** The first revolutionary break-away in shaker shoe design from the old-time grain separator. In 1954 M-H 90 and 80 Specials will use DYNA-AIR CHAFF CONTROL... a revolutionary application of the air floatation principle to combine design. It's a controlled flow of air... across the ENTIRE WIDTH of each sieve... with no chance for chaff to build up at the sides or front. It's air that moves UPWARD to LIFT chaff, and OUTWARD IN A HORIZONTAL plane to FLOAT chaff away in a ribbon-like stream. Adjustment is simple... you boost combine capacity... save grain... clean better.

## 61 SEALED BEARINGS

### Save Time, Never Need Greasing

Here's news that will strike fire with every farmer who has ever worked around a combine. 61 bearings are factory lubricated... sealed for life. It cuts away down on greasing chores... adds an extra hour of combining. Seals out dirt and moisture... bearings last indefinitely.

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nozzle used, and existing wind conditions. Complete wetting of all weeds and brush is the objective; and, as it takes more spray to cover a dense stand of brush than a thin one, the speed of travel must be reduced, if more chemical is required. Of course, the larger the nozzle, the faster the job is done. With narrower widths of coverage, the rates of application become correspondingly higher.

Engineers at the Experimental Farm advise checking the performance of a sprayer, by first spraying an acre of roadside with water. They furnish the following table, from which the distances required to travel in order to cover one acre may be determined:

Roadside Width	Roadside Length To Be Travelled
16 feet	907 yards
20 feet	726 yards
30 feet	484 yards

The sprayer may be permanently mounted on a trailer, or it can be carried on a truck. A trailer unit has the advantage of being quickly attached to the truck; and it is not necessary to remove it each time the truck is required for other purposes. On the

Negro definition of oratory: "If you sez black am white, dat's foolish. But if you sez black am white an' bellers like a bull and pounds de table wid both fists, dat's oratory."

other hand, if the sprayer is carried on a truck, it is more easily handled on the highway and greater speed is possible when travelling back and forth to the location where the spray-

ing is to be done. Likewise, with the operator close to the driver, directions can be more easily given.

The use of mowing machines, scythes and axes to remove roadside weeds and brush, is slow, and never permanent. It must be done every year, whereas, after a three-year program of chemical control, only occasional spot spraying is necessary. The

chemicals used to destroy weeds do not injure grass, and as the weeds and brush are killed off, the grass takes over and to a considerable degree prevents the re-growth of the weeds. Chemical spraying has been found to cost about half that of mechanical control, and is even more economical when the initial outlay for equipment is lower. v

## The Strawberry Blighter

*How one family determined the size of a strawberry patch for a family of five and the neighbors*

by KERRY WOOD

WELL, we're eating strawberries again. Just a few, this summer, though I recall that the family greeted with delight my announcement a couple of years back, when 500 plants were ordered for our garden.

"We're going to grow real strawberries?" demanded daughter Rondo, with enthusiasm. Young Heather performed a celebration dance, while small Greg made slurping noises. Mother Marjory was pleased, too, though she said:

"Five hundred plants sound like a lot—Oh, well: it's probably impossible to grow too many strawberries."

She was remembering the hundreds of pumpkins and marrows and squash and sandcherries we'd grown in the back yard, during my periodic ventures into large scale horticulture. But I didn't heed her cautionary note.

"Strawberries and cream!" I exclaimed. "Strawberry shortcake! Strawberries with cottage cheese, and rich red strawberry jam!"

THE first season wasn't bad. The family went off on a long holiday to visit relatives, while I stayed home to work and tend the garden. The new plants produced enough berries to keep me happy. There was one sad occasion when the 50 cockerels my neighbor was raising, discovered the patch. When I charged across the garden to drive the roosters away from the beautiful berries, three of that same neighbor's bees stung me as I routed their master's poultry. My neighbor thought it was quite funny, but the joke has somehow eluded me.

Last summer, the strawberries came into their prime. First, three rows of

## Talk it over...

Some day soon, you might be in the market for a truck. When you are, you'll likely talk makes, sizes and types with someone else.

Well, tractor tires are a big investment, too. And the way they all look so much alike, it's hard to know which is the best buy.

No matter what tractor tire you use now, we suggest you talk to a neighbour who uses Goodyear Sure-Grips before you buy new tires. Ask him how they pull—how they stand up—how they work in your local soil conditions.

Most important — ask him what make he'll buy next time.

We don't need to make any claims for Super Sure-Grips. The farmers who use them will make the claims and give practical proof of performance far more convincingly than we can in any advertisement.

P.S. Your Goodyear Dealer is a good man to know. He can save you money, and he has the right Goodyear tire for every wheel on your farm. And remember—when you buy a new tractor, be sure to specify Goodyear Super Sure-Grips.

*"Talk to a neighbour who uses them"*



**GOODYEAR**

**SUPER SURE-GRIP TRACTOR TIRES**



Senator Dunlaps glistened maroon and luscious. Rondo and Heather and Greg volunteered to help us pick the fruit, though their bowls never seemed to receive as many berries as their mouths. By the end of the week, the kids weren't too anxious to come a-running for the daily picking. Then the Everbearings started to ripen, all four rows of an improved strain that produced a dark berry of goodly size, but not quite so flavorful as the Dunlaps. Or were we, perhaps, losing the edge of our appetite for strawberries?

The Everbearings didn't seem to know when to stop bearing. The Dunlaps came back strong, after a brief rest, while at last the British Sovereigns ripened. We loved that variety. The Sovereigns were large and easy to pick; they were deliciously good eating, and, above all, we had only one row!

"I'll pick the Sovs," Rondo would offer, "if you folks look after the Everbearings and the Duns."

The daily picking chore produced pounds of berries and the worst back-aches we'd had in years. Often we'd phone friends and invite them to pick our patch; at first they were grateful, but when they were about one-third way through the plantation, they'd be moaning with strawberry lumbago and quit. Urged to come again, they'd smile knowingly at us and politely refuse. So we had to go out and pick our patch ourselves.

**M**OST strawberry growers loathe that beloved harbinger of spring, the robin. When our berries first started to ripen, and robins flocked to the garden with loud chirrups of glee,

I'd rush around yelling "shoo." Much worse than robins were the greedy English sparrows. Then there was my little friend Martinelli, the singing mouse who lives in our garage. He and his friends went foraging through the berry patch every night. I ranted and raved about all these depredations for a while, but it wasn't long before I was actually beaming on the busy



"I understand he's one of our richest farmers!"

robins and sparrows and mice. The more they ate, the less picking we had to do.

Came late summer. At long last the persistent Everbearings quit bearing, the British Sovereigns fed us their final huge berries—then the dormant Senator Dunlaps suddenly started producing all over again.

When visitors came to call, we'd urge them to sample the berries, and

artfully suggest that they might like to borrow a trowel and dig themselves a few hundred strawberry roots to transplant into their own gardens. A few of my friends were gullible enough to be enthused about this suggestion, which helped thin out the sprawling patch. Yet it was obvious that what we had left was much too large a plantation for our requirements. Marjory told me how many quarts of strawberries we had in the basement, how many cartons of frozen strawberries were in the storage locker down town, and how many jars of jam were on the pantry shelves. Unfortunately, by this time none of the family was strawberry hungry. We'd lost our appetite for that heavenly fruit so delightfully described by Henry van Dyke:

"Doubtless God could have created a better berry, but doubtless He never did!"

When the time came to prepare the garden for winter, I actually scowled at the large berry patch. A friend had given me a sharp grub-hoe. I carried this destructive tool out into the sprawling strawberry bed one day, glanced guiltily around to see if anyone was watching, then swung that hoe with vigor. In short order the patch was reduced to a few narrow rows. I was particularly rough on the Everbearings, because of their everbearing nonsense, but I spared all the British Sovereigns and a reasonable percentage of Dunlaps.

Next day the family took an approving look at the drastically curtailed patch and decided to call me The Strawberry Blighter.

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# "OPERATION ALUMINUM"

## BRITISH COLUMBIA 1954

The vast Kitimat hydroelectric and aluminum smelter project will be turning out aluminum by mid-summer this year. Completion of Kenney Dam in October, 1952, was the first major milestone. In December, 1953, the ten-mile, 25-foot diameter water tunnel was "holed through" Mount DuBose in the world-record time of 21 months. Three 140,000 H.P. generators are now in position in the Kemano underground powerhouse, and power will soon pass along the 50-mile transmission line to Kitimat.

At Kitimat, in former wilderness, potlines for the first phase of production have been installed. Aluminum at the rate of 91,500 tons a year is scheduled to flow from Kitimat this year, thus increasing Alcan's ingot capacity to over one and a quarter billion pounds annually.

**Alcan embarked in 1951 on an expansion programme to meet the increased demand for aluminum. This programme, divided into two principal parts, is completed in Quebec and nearing conclusion in British Columbia.**

In the fifty-four years since the first Canadian aluminum plant opened at Shawinigan Falls, Canada's aluminum industry has grown to be the second largest in the world; and Canada now exports more aluminum than any other country.

Still the need grows, both at home and abroad, for this light, strong, modern metal of many uses. And Aluminum Company of Canada is putting man-power, and money, and

engineering brains, and imagination into the job of keeping up with that demand.

Aluminum is "packaged power". The electricity needed to produce one ton of aluminum would light the average home for nearly a generation. By making use of Canada's abundant, low-cost power, this Canadian enterprise has created employment and income for tens of thousands: for the men who build and operate the dams and powerhouses, the docks and smelters and power lines it needs; and for the more than one thousand independent Canadian companies who turn aluminum into countless forms important to industry and our own daily living.

## QUEBEC 1953

In Quebec, Alcan completed two new powerhouses and augmented its aluminum smelting facilities during 1953.

The new generating stations at Chute du Diable and Chute a la Savane on the Peribonka River — one of the principal tributaries of Lake St. John — have a combined generating capacity of 540,000 H.P. The total installed generating capacity of Alcan's power plants in Quebec has thereby been increased to 2,580,000 H.P.

The rated annual capacity of the added aluminum smelting facilities at Isle Maligne is 71,500 tons a year. By the end of 1953 ingot capacity in Alcan's four Quebec smelters — at Shawinigan Falls, Arvida, Isle Maligne and Beauharnois — totalled over one billion pounds a year, or about a quarter of world capacity.

# Aluminum

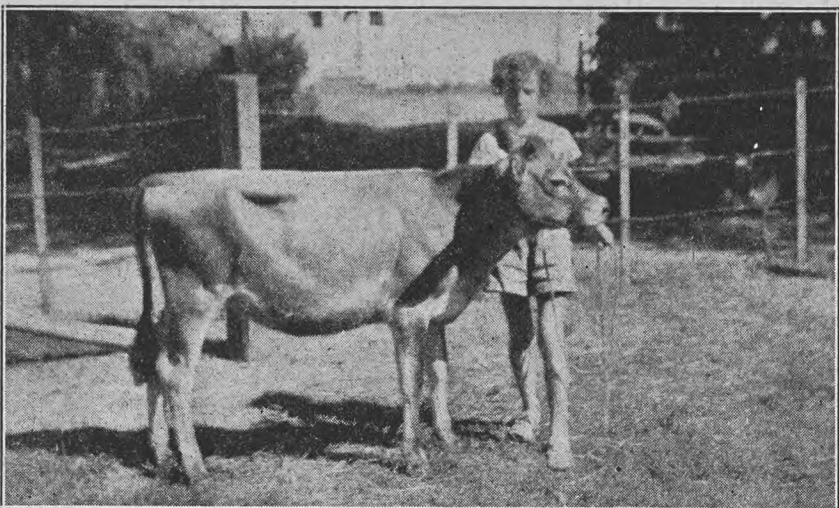


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Susan (shown here with her calf, Handen Farm Topaz), and her elder sister Joan, are successful calf club members. The entire family is interested in club work, and Mrs. Standen is club leader.

## Success at Handen Farm

Continued from page 8

soon blanketed under a cover of ice, and Old Man Frost started breaking a few low temperature records, along with untold sections of semi-exposed water pipe. He didn't neglect the pumphouse intake pipe at Handen Farm. Digging and thawing pipes took precedence over all other jobs, as the Standens battled to keep water flowing for the house and stock.

About a week after it was all over, Harry was accosted by a friend in town. "Guess you had plenty of trouble during the cold spell," the latter said.

"No," Harry answered, "nothing to speak of." But that's Harry Standen: he makes a point of keeping his troubles to himself. Wild horses couldn't drag a word out of him of the long, hard pull they'd had over the years, from that single cow to their fine Jersey herd of today.

ONE problem facing the Standens during their first year at Cowichan was a 17-acre field that lay on a gravelly hillside west of the house. It was too far from the river to irrigate, and the soil so poor that apparently it should never have been cleared at all. Harry was advised by the former owner, "You might as well forget about this field, because you'll never get back what you put into it."

That first summer the Standens took a rather poor volunteer hay crop off it, then plowed the whole works under, and planted fall oats and wheat, plus a mixture of orchard and rye grass. The severe winter did for the grain, but the grass started to take hold in the spring. Harry gave it a top dressing of 10-20-10, followed by a liberal application of barnyard manure, and in his own words, "away she went."

Last year, a wet one, the crop ran from two to two and a half tons per acre. Because drying conditions were poor, Harry put a good deal of his surplus into silage. The grass silage worked out so well that he became a confirmed grasslander. Along with the abundance of moist hay in the valley, Cowichan embarked on its first grassland farming program, with Standen as an enthusiastic supporter.

Originally sponsored by the Field Crops Branch of the B.C. Department of Agriculture, the program operates

through the establishment of grassland clubs in various parts of the province. It is based on the intelligent use of grasses and legumes, in a crop rotation which features hay and pasture lands as an integral part of the farm economy. In short, grass is treated as a cultivated or cash crop, and receives as much care as any on the farm. By feeding more roughage and less concentrates, the grassland farmer is expected to decrease feeding costs and thus increase his income. As an added bonus, the careful management of hay and pasture fields will increase soil fertility and add to the value of his farm. Harry Standen can testify to this latter point from his experience with that upper pasture.

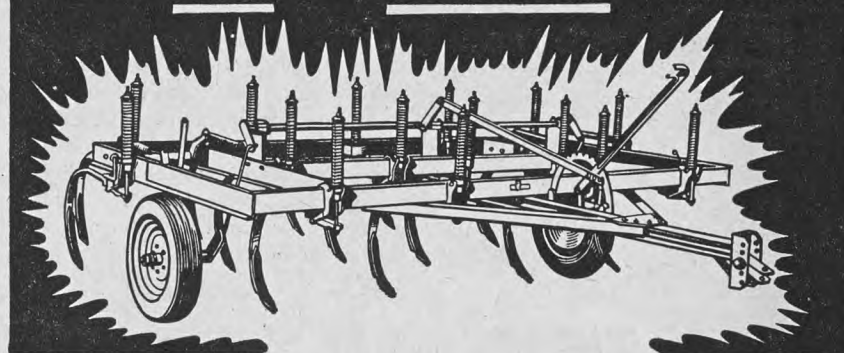
The Cowichan Grassland Club was one of five organized in B.C. in 1953, and was the first to complete its official year. Administration was handled by a co-operative grassland committee, composed of representatives of the Duncan Chamber of Commerce, the Cowichan Agricultural Society, the Shawnigan-Cobble Hill Farmer's Institute, and the local district agriculturist, J. D. Hazelette. Harry Standen represented the Agricultural Society on this body.

The Club's initial program was a straight competition among enrolled farms, based on an official score card supplied by the government. Thirty points were allowed for seasonal grazing practices, 30 more for methods of crop handling, and 40 points for farm management. Harry didn't enter the competition, because he thought his irrigation system would give him an unfair advantage. This point was recognized by the committee later, and prizes were awarded in two classes, one for irrigated, and one for non-irrigated farms.

Reviewing the progress made by the Grassland Club in its first year, Standen had this to say, "By bringing greater prosperity to each member it will benefit the whole community."

THE community receives a good deal of benefit from the Standens. In addition to his grassland duties, Harry is president of the Cowichan Jersey Cattle Club, and daughter Joan is president of the Cowichan Jersey Calf Club. Mrs. Standen organized the latter group, and has been club leader ever since. She was elected secretary of the Jersey Cattle Club about a year ago, and just this year was appointed Vancouver Island representative on the Provincial Advisory 4-H Council. Both Susan and Joan

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belong to the Cowichan Jersey Yearling Club, as well as the Jersey Calf Club, and their farm has provided an annual trophy for the highest points in club work, plus a prize halter for the rookie member showing most progress in the first year.

The Standen girls crowned their 12 years of faithful club work by winning a series of awards last year. In a club-sponsored milk-testing demonstration they won first and second prizes at the Saanich and Cowichan fairs, respectively. For general work over the year, Joan placed first and Susan second. On top of that, Joan won the Handen Farm Trophy for

her showing in the Yearling Club, and Susan, the Scott and Peden Trophy for the highest marks in the Calf Club. To prove she could excel in any breed class, Susan took the Haugland Ayrshire Farm Trophy for the best-fitted-and-shown calf in the Cowichan Exhibition.

Incidentally, the Standens have a couple of dandy dogs. One is a white Siberian Husky male, and the other a Doberman Pinscher female. One night last fall the family was disturbed by a great commotion outside the living-room window. When they investigated they found that the dogs were holding a cougar at bay in the apple tree. Re-

membering that he had lent his gun to a neighbor, Harry rushed up the road to get it, while Pearl stayed under the tree with the dogs to keep them on the job. After what seemed ages to Mrs. Standen, Harry returned and shot the beast, all of which suggests that the wilderness is never very far away on Vancouver Island.

At Handen Farm the Standens have found truth in the old adage that farming is not so much a living as a way of life. With the achievements of the past few years behind them, these people that "never intended to farm" are now certain of one thing. They never intend to do anything else. V

## Alfalfa Seed From Busy Bees

*Continued from page 11*

the view that honey bees, although perhaps of some help, are ineffective as compared with native bees.

In the first place, honey bees visit alfalfa flowers under protest; in the second, the nectar collectors approach the flower from the side, and when they leave with their load of nectar, the flower is generally untripped. The pollen collectors are bolder, but they are few in number. Not for the honey bee is the buffeting of slashing staminal columns. He would rather seek less violent flowers.

Certain species of leaf-cutter and bumblebees are made of sterner stuff. They ignore the flying column in their search for nectar and pollen, and they are the insects that the seed producer must woo.

This essential wooing has too often taken the form of breaking up their homes, killing out flowers that give them food before the alfalfa blooms and, when they are on the alfalfa blossoms by the thousands spraying them with death-dealing herbicides meant for the alfalfa enemy, the lygus bug.

Considering the last point first, the spraying should, as far as possible, be restricted to the period before the alfalfa fields are in full bloom. Also, spraying is best done in the late evening, after the bees have left the field and the lygus bugs are alone on the alfalfa. Toxaphene, which will control lygus bugs, is less deadly to bees than DDT.

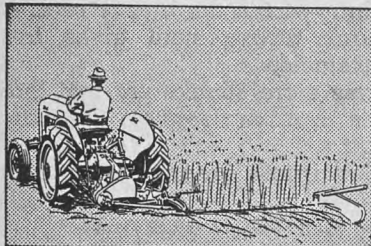
"The reduction in alfalfa seed yields that has accompanied the increase in cultivated acreages in many districts in northern Saskatchewan is a natural result of a greatly reduced population of leaf-cutter bees and bumblebees," H. A. McMahon, Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Saskatoon, told an agricultural audience recently. "This reduction in the wild bee population has been caused by the destruction of their nesting sites and probably, in the case of the bumblebees particularly, by the reduction in the number of the native flowering plants, which provided a necessary source of food before and after the period of alfalfa bloom."

On farms where the natural beehive and cover has been destroyed, little can be done to bring the bees back quickly. In areas where large acreages of undisturbed land remain, it should be recognized that additional land-clearing will inevitably reduce bee population, and may make alfalfa seed production unprofitable.

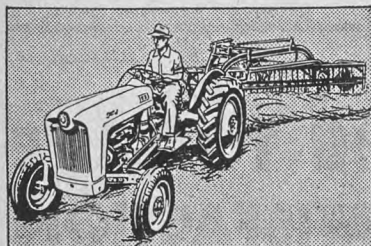
Even hauling dead trees and fallen logs out of the bush may reduce the population of the very efficient tripper—the leaf-cutter bee. In northern Saskatchewan and in the Peace River districts of Alberta and British Columbia, it has been found that fields near areas in which logs or timbers have been fire-killed 10 or 15 years before, consistently produce heavier seed sets. This is particularly true if the burnt-over timber was largely balsam and aspen poplar. Wood-boring beetles, that have tunneled into the dead trees, leave holes that make ideal sites, in which leaf-cutter bees will lay their eggs.

# JUST NAME THE JOB

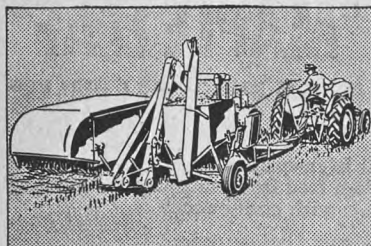
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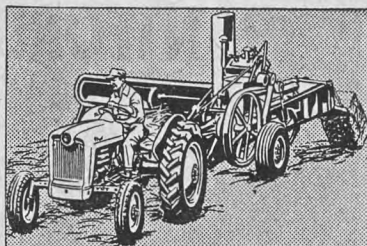
REAR ATTACHED MOWER for the Ford Tractor available in six or seven foot models. Heavy Duty Side Mounted Mower also available for the Ford Tractor.



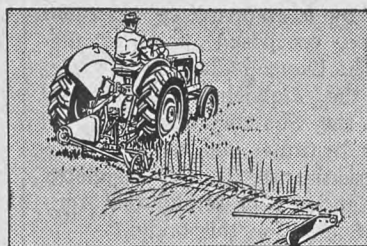
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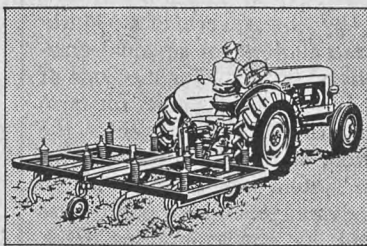
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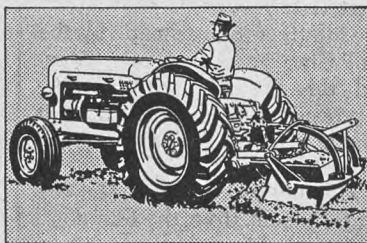
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If such land is available it should be carefully inspected for leaf-cutter bees. If they appear to be numerous, any breaking done should disturb as little of this timber as possible; and the logs from cleared land should not be burned, but should be piled on the margin of the field to provide homes for bees.

It is difficult to say exactly what size of field will give the largest net return from alfalfa seed production. A survey in northern Saskatchewan revealed an average seed yield of 303 pounds from fields ranging in size from one to seven acres, compared with 272 pounds from fields which averaged 17 acres in size. Often, more seed was set on the marginal four or five rods, than was set in the center of the field. It was concluded that to get maximum yields of seed on a quarter-section, from 40 to 80 acres (maximum) should be broken; and that the alfalfa fields should be 10 or, at the most, 15 rods in width.

In districts where dependence is placed on bumblebees for tripping and cross-pollinating, it is not advisable to break all the open, grassy areas, and leave only the heavier woods. Bumblebees, nesting in gopher holes, mouse nests, or hollow stumps, seek open areas, or light bush, in preference to heavily wooded areas. Cultivating all the easiest land to break may destroy the bulk of the bumblebee's choice nesting sites. Also, breaking such areas frequently destroys early spring and late-autumn-flowering plants, on which the bumblebee has learned to rely when cultivated flowers are unavailable.

It is important that alfalfa should not be grown in the immediate vicinity of clover fields, if bumblebees are being relied on. Bumblebees will frequently leave the alfalfa and forage in the clover fields.

In general, suitable areas for producing alfalfa seed can be selected by carefully estimating the abundance of native pollinators, and especially leaf-cutter bees, in the natural growth. When such an area is located the welfare of the bees should be guarded by breaking only a limited amount of the land, and making the fields of a shape and size that will permit the bees to fertilize most efficiently.

Alfalfa seed growing is one form of farm production in which a hunger for bigger, squarer fields can be entirely identified with the ambitious, but uneconomic, practice of "killing the goose that laid the golden egg." V

## The Rural Hospital From the Inside

*Continued from page 10*

aware that in the dim, distant past the reputations of hospitals along this line were not of the highest. I think of an elderly man who was sent from the Deloraine-Melita country years ago to a Winnipeg hospital, for a rather severe operation. Following this, for some days, they gave him little but water. With his highly pitched voice he would ask the nurse, "Nurse, when am I going to get some nourishment?" Next meal time it was raised again, and again, until the time arrived when the doctor allowed him a little more; and the next time he complained in the same tone of voice, she brought him

# How Competitive is the Oil Industry ?

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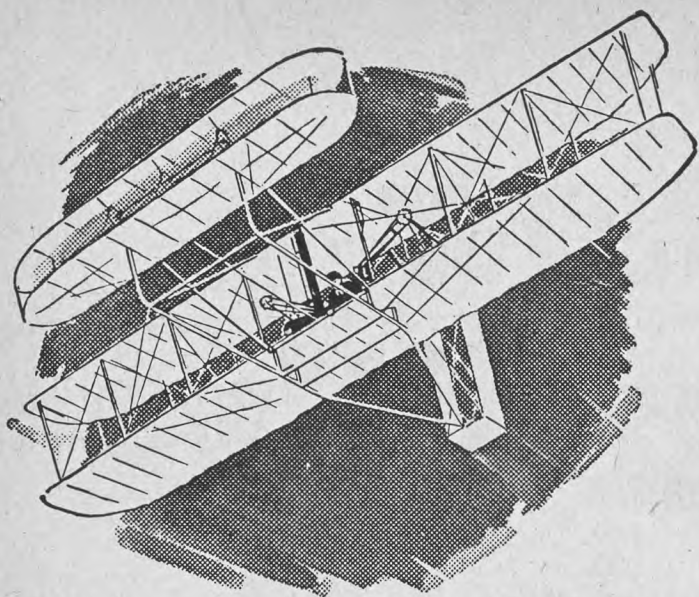
Governments are receiving revenue on a greatly increased scale because oil companies bid against each other for the right to explore. The money paid to governments is helping to provide schools, roads and other developments contributing to the common welfare.

In the marketing and refining of petroleum products in Western Canada, more than 50 companies are competing for the oil consumers' business. To keep that business, these companies must offer service, quality products, and prices which are right.

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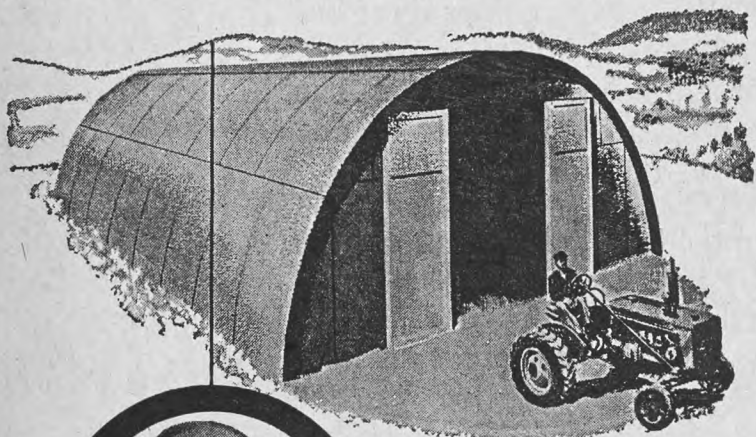


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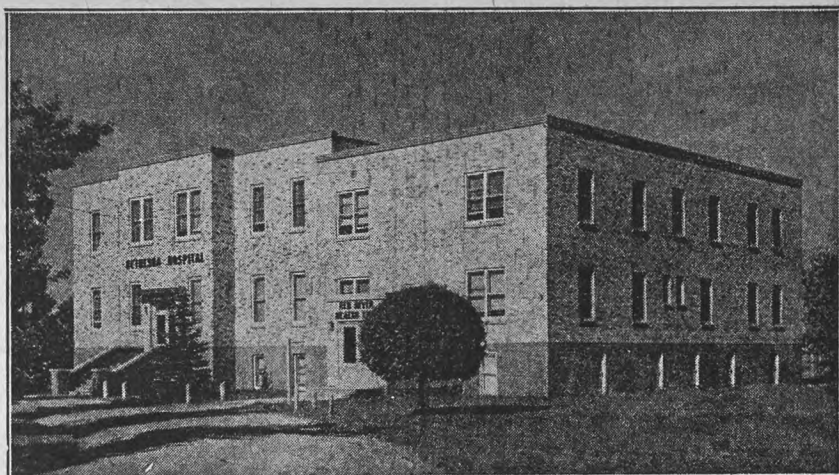
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some beef tea. Once more the voice rang out, this time asking, "Nurse, what do you call this?" "Oh," replied the nurse, "that's beef tea. It's very nourishing. You try it." He eyed it for a few seconds and then, in a still disappointed tone, asked: "Well, Nurse, did they take a pound of beefsteak and drag it through Lake Manitoba?"

Those days, however, are long gone, and you will find the food of good quality, well cooked, and nicely served. Indeed, they often have chicken on Sunday! And one day I actually had T-bone steak—not that I am an authority on T-bone steak, but this had a T-bone in it, and it looked and tasted like steak. So you need have no fears about eats.

**T**HE smaller country hospital is in no way a competitor of its city cousin. It is, rather, complementary to it. True, it has a small operating theatre, where, with the assistance of a neighboring doctor, tonsilectomies, an appendectomies and such are conducted; where broken bones are set and accidents remedied; where they keep an X-ray machine and possibly an electrocardiograph machine, and maybe an oxygen tank and other equipment. But when the "Doc" finds out that more is needed, and that there is likely to be need of extensive explorations or intensive research into the interior of the human anatomy, it isn't long before he recommends a journey to the city and to a specialist. Perhaps none more than the country doctor recognizes more quickly the deep need of a patient for a specialist's judgment and for specialized surgery and treatment. Oftentimes it is he who diagnoses the case and has to plead with the patient and repeatedly urge him to take advantage of these, before it is too late. The equipment of the small hospital saves many a trip to the city, both for the patient and his friends, which means less expense and inconvenience.

To confirm his diagnosis and determine the extent of the damage in my own case, the "Doc" gave me an electrocardiogram. First of all, I lie flat on my back on the bed. He scrapes my left shin until it is sore, then places an electrode on it and binds it tight with a rubber band. He does the same with the right leg, then a similar operation with each arm, and a fifth over the heart. Following these, he attaches wires to the electrodes until you begin to look like a Model T engine all wired up to go. Indeed, it has a more sinister look even than that; as I told the Doc, it looked as though he were wiring me up for the electric chair. I

told him of Mrs. Newrich who, with her newly acquired fortune, decided to call an expert to search out and record her family tree. This was proceeding nicely, until the expert discovered that a somewhat recent ancestor had been sentenced to the electric chair and summarily executed. However, the expert covered the matter over very well by suggesting that this particular ancestor "had occupied a chair in a prominent government institution."

Well, when all is ready, the Doc makes sure that you are not touching any metal, that the bed is away from contact with metal and the bedsprings well insulated, and that the patient is properly relaxed, and does not speak. Then he turns on the juice, and on a graph film about two and one-half inches wide, the oscillating needle records the heart movements of the patient. After about three feet of film is used up, he changes the electrode over the heart to another position and proceeds as before. After another spell he changes the electrode again and goes ahead once more. Altogether, by the time he is through, the machine will have recorded about ten feet of film. This the doctor proceeds to read, or he may send it to a specialist for his interpretation. Little is left to guesswork in the country hospital.

Before this is all done, the Doc has probably put you to bed and forbidden you to walk even as far as the bathroom, providing a one n.p. (nurse-power) wheel chair for such a purpose, with self-starter (no crank) and stop-over privilege at the telephone, by arrangement. Or, should there be a telephone call for you, nurse will take you over, and call again later to return you to bed. When you get lonesome and wish to talk with the family, it is easy and inexpensive, as home is not too far away.

About visitors. The visitor approaches rather timidly and sees notices on the door, "No children under 16 admitted," "Please remove your rubbers and leave them in the porch," "Visiting hours 2:00-4:00 and 7:00-9:00 p.m." So you look at your watch, knock gently, and walk in. Perhaps, to your surprise, no white-robed, white-capped receptionist meets you to ask if you are the patient's grandmother, or sister or aunt. In fact, nobody comes at all (the nurse is likely busy) and you timidly take a step forward with your nose in the air, as though smelling your way along. After what seems like minutes, a voice comes from a ward nearby, and one of the patients who can see the front door



calls, and soon you are put in contact with the nurse or patient for your visit. If you are a good visitor—not too funeral-like, not reading the burial service every time you go, or telling of Mrs. Susan Binks who had just the same trouble and died after a few days—the nurse more than likely will be glad that you came to bring a gleam of brightness and hope to the patient and the ward. When you do go to the hospital, don't forget that the visitor has a responsibility, not only in obeying the regulations as to hours and conditions, but as to attitude toward patients and hospital staff, and can do much to leave good cheer and pleasant memories behind.

**A**MONG the many services of the country hospital, in addition to caring for older people who need better attention than their folks are able to give, and in a place where they may be easily visited, is their function as a maternity hospital. Not only is expert nursing and splendid medical attention given, but training and advice also, on how to care for the child, so that the mother will be the better able to care for the wee one on her arrival home again. Under the expert eye of the nurse, she is trained in bathing, clothing, feeding and nursing the new arrival, and giving him, or her, a comfortable start in life. This is a worthwhile contribution in itself, of great benefit to the home and society at large, adding much to the health and stature of a community.

Yes, the country hospital is fast becoming a real institution and can be made of lasting benefit to the district as a whole. From experience and observation, may I suggest the following do's and don'ts if you are thinking of erecting a hospital in your district:

Don't think that the government is going to pay for and do, everything. It isn't. Don't start a bigger project than is necessary for your area and district. Don't build a hospital for the sake of getting ahead of your neighboring community. Don't build where you are liable to be cramped on two or three lots. Have abundance of room.

Do secure a good location, taking into consideration rail service, road conditions, accessibility to good water and a plentiful supply, and good drainage conditions. Do get a good site, even if Mr. Wilkins does offer you a poor one free. Do give lots of window space, with low-set windows, out of which the patients will be able to see, without too much effort. A person usually likes to see what is going on outside. Even if curiosity did kill the cat, a little of it is a really healthful sign. A window with a view is worth while, and provides something of interest to the patient otherwise shut in. Do be sure, however, that you have a suitable outlook. In eastern Saskatchewan, driving along a strange road, I glanced to my right and saw a lovely new building. Passing slowly, I discovered that it was a new memorial hospital. I was just beginning to commend the municipality on its enterprise, when I turned my head slightly to the left—and there was the cemetery. How suggestive! For the uninitiated, even yet, the hospital is considered "the last resort." Having got you thus far, they place you in the front room that you may gaze out of the window eastward and see—the cemetery.



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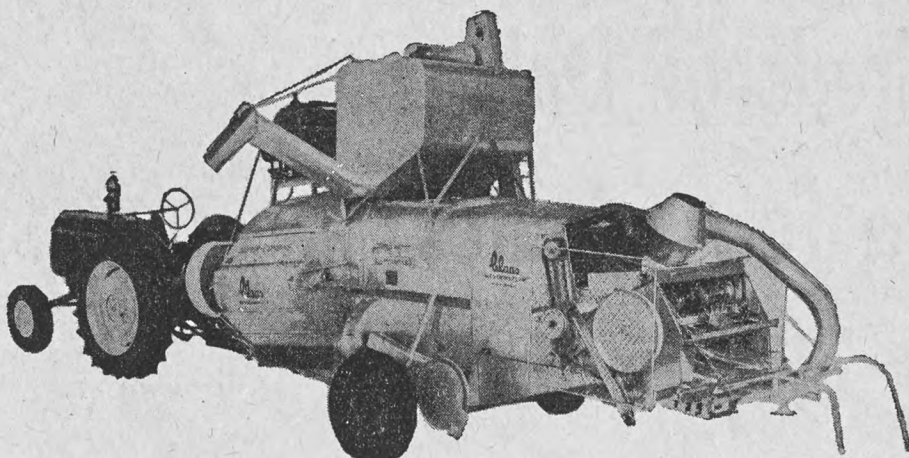
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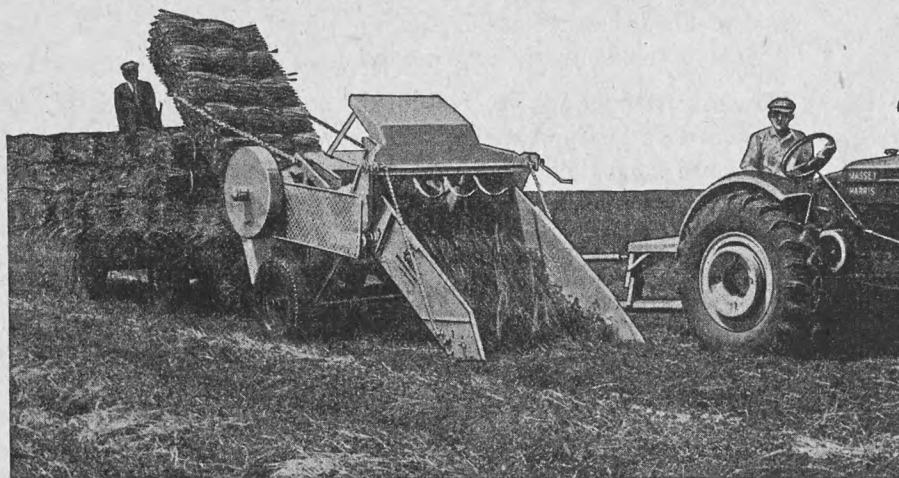
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# Our House And the Birds

*Birds are pleasanter to have than not to have, but sometimes the pathway to mutual respect is thorny*

by RAY PETERSON

OUR house is surrounded by native bush. We like it that way. It's pleasant having the woods at our doorstep. It provides us with shade, shelter and privacy. In season, wild fruit can be picked for dessert, while the rest of the dinner is

cooking. Many different species of birds share this wooded yard with us. So far, we have not quite decided whether the birds resent or respect this man-made nest in the center of their lot. We are not always certain of our feelings toward them, either.

Robins seem to enjoy being within speaking distance of man. These plump, cheerful birds occasionally outlive their welcome by raiding strawberry patches. We have no strawberries, but they sometimes offend us by an entirely different habit. Baby robins, like most youngsters, man's included, have bottomless appetites. Every so often, a robin hurrying home with a nice helping of worm-pabulum tries to take a shortcut through a house window. A loud crash that never fails to startle us, echoes through the building. As our clamoring nerves slowly settle to normal, the dazed parent struggles to get airborne again. We are afraid

that, eventually, an extra speedy robin is going to burst through a window instead of being bounced back. How does one bill a robin for a broken windowpane?

One spring, a noisy dispute arose over the possession of a building site beneath the house eaves. A hard-boiled little gangster of the bird world, an English sparrow, was one of the claimants. The other principal in the case was a pleasant-voiced phoebe. After waking us at dawn for a week or more, they apparently gave it up as a draw. Both parties withdrew and left us to be roused by the conventional method, the alarm clock.

If birds ever organize for civil defence, there is one fellow who should win the task of sounding the alarm in case of enemy attack. While there are quite a number of noise makers in the feathered race, such as crows, magpies, and loons, the bird that can produce the most rousing cry, in our opinion, is a large woodpecker, the flicker, or yellow-hammer.

ON a summer morning when the sun was only a crimson promise in the sky, the sounds of a scuffle pulled me from bed. I barefooted into the living room to find our cat, Tawny, springing at the window trying to catch a flicker.

"Well, Mr. Woodpecker," I said, "I had better catch you before Tawny does, or you won't feast on any more ants."

I caught the bird by its stiff tail as it fluttered frantically over the glass. Instantly, bedlam broke loose. Flickers can make an impressive noise outdoors, but that is only a polite suggestion compared with the awful sound that poured from the captured bird. It was a piercing, terror-burdened, cry that froze me to the floor. My wife screamed and the baby began to wail in fright. Meowing for his voluble

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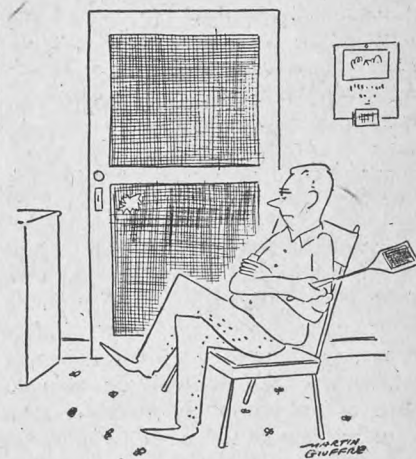


"Years ago I studied the *best* way to buy life insurance. At first I had looked only at the premium I would have to pay . . . until a friend said:

'Don't go entirely by the amount of the premium. Study the company's record for paying dividends to its policyholders. That will give you some idea of the dividends you can expect. The *real* cost of life insurance consists of the premiums you pay, *less* the dividends the company pays *you* over the years!'

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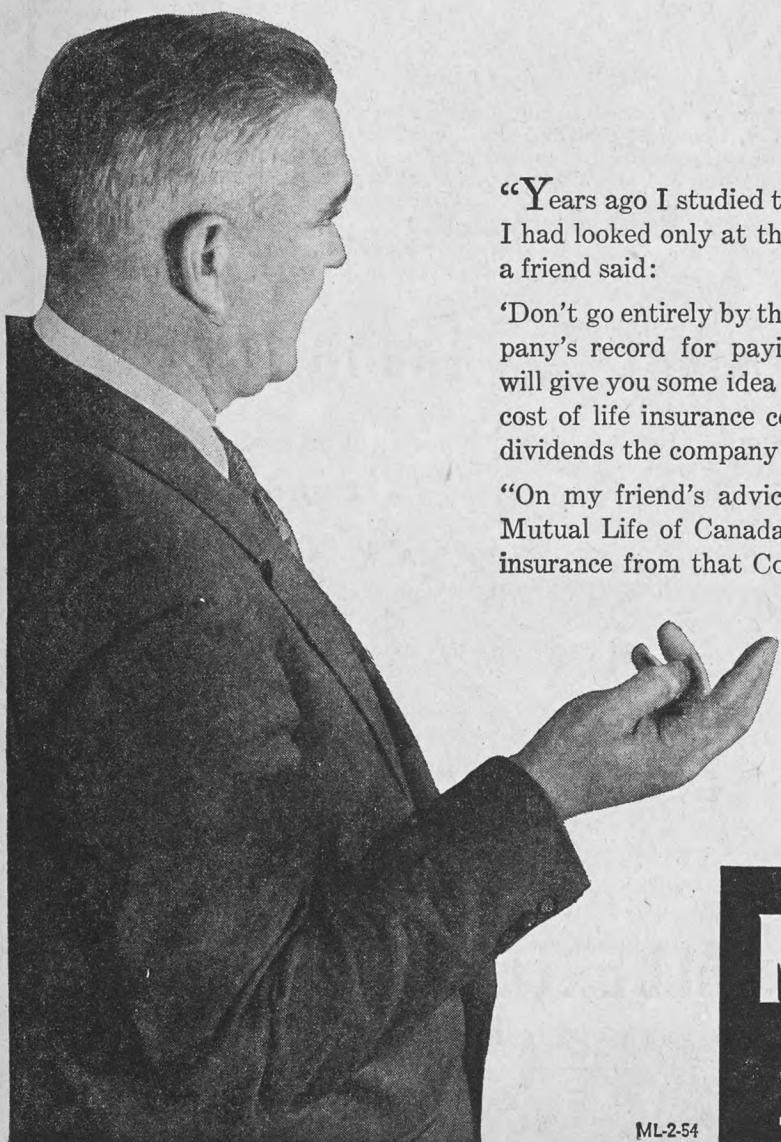
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breakfast, Tawny started climbing my pyjama-clad legs. His sharp claws, digging into more than the thin cloth of the pyjamas, brought me out of my shock. I hurriedly opened the door and released the hysterical bird.

How the woodpecker entered the house is still one of our unsolved mysteries. One solution is that the cat brought it in via an open basement window, and that the bird escaped from him. Tawny was rather notorious for packing live prizes into the house.

Small cousins of the flicker, downy woodpeckers, occasionally inspect the ridge of the roof. Fortunately, these visits are brief, as well as infrequent. I don't think that the curious little chaps find many snacks tucked in the shingles, but their bills could soon give



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us a roof with a built-in sprinkling system. The vigorous tattoo of their beaks on the roof is not very easy to listen to, either.

**T**O date, our latest, and one of our most exasperating visitors, has been an owl. To give the bird credit, though, it was not the one most responsible. We were.

We discovered the owl in an empty chicken house, while on a Sunday visit. He was a tiny chap, about the size of a robin, with a middle-aged waistline. Contrary to popular belief and superstition, the owl could see very plainly in the daylight. All owls can, for that matter. As though to prove his daytime abilities, he was dining upon a freshly killed English sparrow. We captured the owl quite easily. Later, we took him home with us, to identify him. As it was late, the owl was placed in an improvised cage for the night.

Next morning, bird book in hand, we went to interview our prisoner. He was not in his cage. After a search that took in more territory than last spring's housecleaning, we found the owl in the attic.

Finding him and catching him, however, were two entirely separated problems. The owl was determined not to be captured a second time. Between us, my wife and I stalked him from gable to gable in an owl-sided game of tag. Unlike most wild birds inside a building, the owl did not lose his sense and flutter about helplessly. With a cool, confident skill he flitted back and forth, dodging roof braces and his clumsy pursuers with a sort of lazy contempt. All the while, the midge owl flew, as all owls do, with a lack of sound that seemed almost uncanny. We, however, were anything but silent as we stumbled over the ceiling joists, expecting at any moment to make a miss-step and crash through the plasterboard on the underside.

Attempts to entangle the owl in the folds of a coat were hopeless, as were our outstretched, groping hands. We were becoming short-tempered and short-breathed. Except for knocking the bird down with a stick there didn't seem to be any way of catching him.

"Perhaps I can snare him," I said at last, remembering how, as a schoolboy, I had seen ruffed grouse snared with a piece of shoe string.

A noose of fine wire was fastened to a long length of quarter-round. After a few passes in the rather dim light the loop was pushed in front of the owl's head. Then, before I could place the noose over the bird's head, the owl flew—headlong into my approaching snare.

Grasping the small owl very firmly, we climbed down from the attic. A rather belated identification labelled the elusive bird as a little boreal owl. Our curiosity satisfied, we freed our unco-operative guest. After that experience I doubt if he will hunt sparrows or mice very close to our buildings.

Now, we are wondering what bird will be the next visitor to our house. There are moments when we envision a yard empty of all wild birds, but they are short-lived, even as moments go. Lately we have been poring over nursery catalogues, looking for plants that will help to attract more birds. ✓

## Still-Fishing in The S. Saskatchewan

*The pleasure of a lazy day, beside water chuckling under a happy sun awaits you*

by JULIUS FRIESEN

**D**URING the 3-D days (drought, depression, and destitution) of the 1930's, farmers along the South Saskatchewan River adopted a sport, which provided a savory meal along with healthy outdoor recreation. Wagonloads of relief-drawing citizens flocked to the then shallow

river, to still-fish for goldeyes, chub, pickerel, and the occasional sucker, pike, and ling cod.

Different still-fishing enthusiasts used different bait. Frogs, worms, minnows, even smoked ham served as bait. But the main lure was the lowly grasshopper—about the only

creature that could survive on the scanty, sun-scorched grain. For the kiddies in the party, catching grasshoppers was as much a part of the day, and almost as much fun, as catching the fish. The hoppers were plentiful along roadsides, but to catch them required an alert eye and a quick hand.

Later, some disciple of Isaac Walton invented a neat hopper-trap, which did away with hand-catching. A piece of baling wire was removed from the shipped-in bales of hay or straw. (This wire seemed to figure in all repairs and inventions of that time.) The wire was inserted in the

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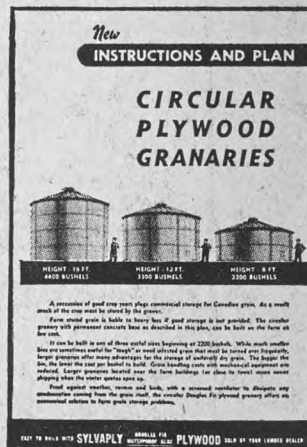
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mouth of a gunny sack — stitched through in over and under motions—so that the gunny sack remained open. To the ends of the baling wire which extended from the sack, a long, light pole was tightly wired.

When the team or car was driven along the road this contraption was held horizontally from the rig, so that the open bag trailed through the short roadside grass. At the approach of this apparatus, the hoppers jumped, only to find themselves "in the bag." Once inside there was only one way out—through the mouth of the sack. This was almost impossible because of the inrush of air and other unfortunate hoppers. Besides, the long, brushy legs of the grasshoppers generally caught in the rough, loosely woven gunny sacks. When the fisherman thought he had enough bait for a day's fishing, he simply doubled the bag over so that the top was covered.

At the river, the sportsman attached the end of the line to the top of a flexible, sturdy willow branch which was forced upright into the moist sand near the edge of the water. A sinker (a stone, or a light piece of scrap iron) was attached to the other end of the line, which usually consisted of a 30 to 80-foot length of 30-pound-test trolling line. A few feet above the sinker, copper-wire leaders with single hooks were fastened, anywhere from one to four per line. A grasshopper or other bait was fastened to each hook, and the angler was ready to cast.

The reckless angler who didn't mind a hook in his arm or hand, simply grabbed the sinker and threw it, baseball fashion, into the water. Naturally the line with hooks and bait followed, the willow pole keeping the line from vanishing into the water. Other still-fishers developed a peculiar cast which was safer, but required more skill and co-ordination. The line was grasped several feet above the nearest hook, whirled lasso-style above the head until enough speed in the swing had been acquired, then it was released to sail out the full length of the line, splashing sinker first into the river.

After casting, the still-fisher's task was simple. All he had to do was to sit or lie on the sand beside the willow "rod." If a fish nibbled the bait, the line carried the vibration to the flexible willow pole which vibrated accordingly. When a fish struck, the pole registered the fact with several violent jerks. The elastic rebound of the pole set the hook firmly. The fisherman then hauled in the line, hand over hand, until the fish flopped onto the bank.

Generally, the youngsters in the party dug a hole in the sand, which seeped full of water and provided a fine storage place in which to keep the fish alive until it was time to go home or cook dinner. After hauling in a fish, the hooks were rebaited and the line was ready to be thrown out again. Since the last of the line to be hauled in was the first to be thrown out, very few tangles (backlashes to you!) resulted.

FREQUENTLY, the anglers became tired of keeping an eye on their lines. Then sleighbells would be attached to the top of the willow pole.



A strike set the bells ringing to wake the sleeping angler in time to pull in another fish for dinner!

When mealtime came, an outdoor picnic lunch was the order of the day. Plenty of dry brush was available for a campfire, which was usually neatly surrounded by water-worn rocks picked up along the river bank. If the fish had been biting, a fish-fry was the main course, with sandwiches and coffee brought from home. Of course, coffee water had to be taken from home, as the river water could not be used safely. Occasionally fresh-water clams might be found in the shallow water, and these helped to round out the meal, with their oyster-like appearance and flavor.

When it was time to go home and do the chores the campfire was put out, fishing lines "wound up," horses harnessed and hitched, and the farmer was off to attend to the disheartening task of milking his skinny cattle and feeding them from dwindling stores of government-supplied feed. But for a day he had been away

from the dusty, dried-out fields, to enjoy the green aliveness of the riverbanks, and the sight of so much water gave some hope that conditions might improve naturally, or that an irrigation project might bring new life to his parched acres.

Now that farmers are basking in prosperity, the old sport of still-fishing has declined sadly in popularity. Those who want to fish, rush off to some resort for a few frenzied weeks of casting and backlashes, with expensive equipment and lures that are imitations of the frogs, minnows and grasshoppers they used to use. The pleasure of a lazy day spent on a sandy beach, beside water chuckling along under a happy sun beaming down from a blue, untroubled heaven, is still only as far away as the nearest river. The goldeyes, chub, pickerel and pike are still there, waiting to stop by and ring your bell, as they did in the dirty thirties when still-fishing in the South Saskatchewan provided thrilling recreation and a meal ticket. v

"Father! More than ever, when walking, tobacco is hard on the lungs and heart. By cutting down gradually, I think we can eliminate the habit altogether."

"Baby," Bob croaked, "I've had this pipe since the night you were born. It's seen me through depression and hail and drought—"

Susan's voice softened, but the firm note of determination remained. "Father, natural living craves no poisons. How often have you said that's why you chose a farmer's life—to be away from the artificial life of the city, breathing the good clean air."

At the end of the week, Susan's mother was using a cane. Bob spent hours (when Susan thought he was in bed) with a basin of hot water and mustard—and his pipe. Promptly at five, Susan awakened the household—for setting up exercises and a stroll before breakfast.

Privately, the Martins debated the advisability of having it out with Susie once and for all. "Doggone it, Ma, we rented the place so we could sleep in and take things easy." Mrs. Martin took another view. "Girls at this age go through stages, Bob. It's either something like this—or love."

"Yeah—that's it," Bob muttered doggedly. "Love! If we quit this, she'll be right back in young Wilson's arms. What if they've had words? Nothing this marsh moon couldn't remedy. We'll stick it out till she's cured, properly."

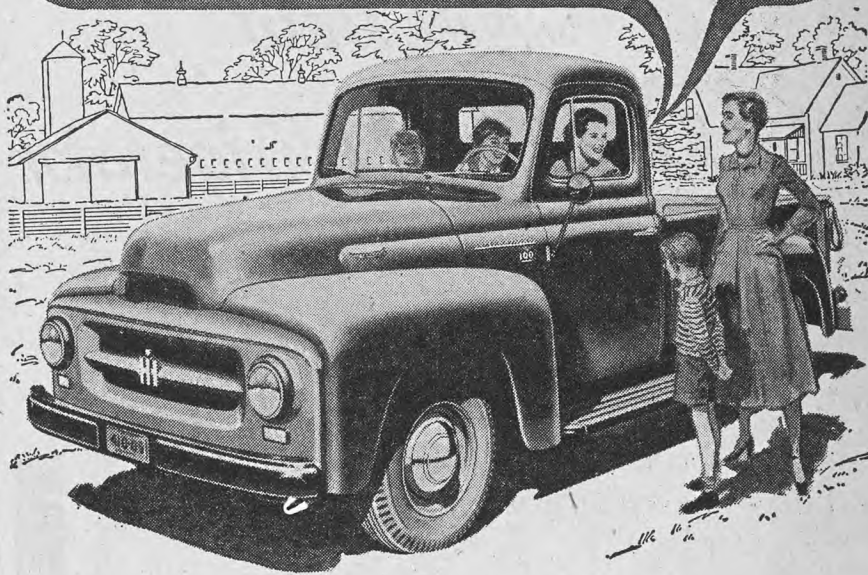
On Friday of the second week, Mrs. Martin announced she was going to visit a girl friend at Victoria, one she hadn't seen since she was married. To the stricken Bob it was as if all his support had gone.

"Mom, we could both go out in the winter . . ."

"Bob," said Mrs. Martin, "you talked me into agreeing to leasing the farm for just this very reason—so we could enjoy ourselves before we were too decrepit to travel. I'm going. And what's more, if you don't get Susie out of this physical culture phobia, I don't know how long I'll prolong my visit."

"Lizzie"—for the first time Bob's head bowed—"how come out of all the

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## Cupid and The Carefree Lady

Continued from page 9

amazingly stiff from the day before, begged for mercy. His stomach, he pleaded, would have to be broken in gently to such walking.

For two hours they toiled up the dry and slippery hills of the valley. They fought their way through spring sumach around the river; crossed virgin tracts of wild grass and waist-high peavine that tripped Bob fifty times. The sweat trickled down Mrs. Martin's forehead; and an enormous corn grew, like a hard snail, further into Bob's heel. Susie looked radiant, but worried.



"Boy is this kid in bad shape—no hair, no teeth . . ."

"Daddy, you look more like a man of seventy than fifty. I don't know what Old Bogey would say."

Bob knew what he'd like to say about Old Bogey. For the esteem in his daughter's heart, he restrained himself. There was one thing, though, he wanted to find out.

"Baby—how old is Old Bogey,"

"Seventy-two," said Susie. "He's going to celebrate his next ten birthdays by taking a parachute jump each time."

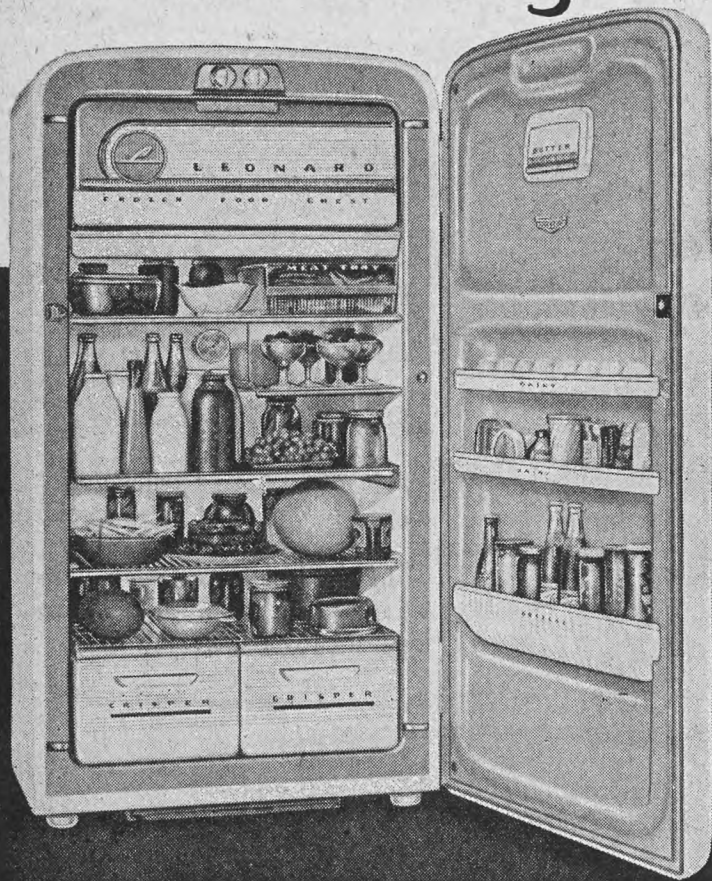
Bob, seizing a straw, dragged out his pipe, and sat down on the hillside.



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camps they have for teen-agers, we had to pick on Professor Boggle's Carefree Camp for Carefree Ladies?"

"It was your choice," Liz said. At the station, she gave him a parting tip. "Bob, did you ever think that if Susan was raising babies and looking after a husband, she wouldn't have so much time for walking? Or even suppose you just got her interested in Steve again. As I recall, we didn't walk so much when we were going together."

SO stiff and footsore had Bob become that the mile walk around the marsh to Steve's little cabin was trial by fire. He found the young muskrat farmer spading wapato plants and smoking placidly on a pipe. He looked so contented that Bob envied him.

Steve waved the shovel, grinned. "Come to look at my muskrats?"

Bob's right foot was on fire. "I did not!"

Steve was unoffended. "Guess how many I got?" He looked fondly at the marsh, where little brownish-black water animals with shiny-black eyes and thin, straight tails, watched warily from the bulrushes. "Around eight thousand."

"I don't care—" Mr. Martin sucked in his breath. "Eight thousand! I wouldn't have said there were eight hundred."

"There weren't, two years ago." Cheerfully, Steve relit his pipe. "But they increase twice a year, three to twelve in a family, and this spring's young will be having babies before summer's over. Next year I'll have around twenty thousand, after taking about four thousand pelts this coming season."

Mr. Martin became thoughtful. "How much," he asked, casually, "do you get from each pelt?"

"Well," said Steve, "muskrats have stood up better than most fur. I figure," he said, just as casually, "an average of two or two-twenty-five. What's on your mind?"

"Two-twenty-five—nine thousand dollars—that's as good as a bumper crop of wheat!"

"That's the way I figure it," Steve said. "What was it?"

"Ahem!" Brusquely Martin cleared his throat. "Son," he said, "I was—er—wondering—I mean, Susan has got some strange notions lately—about walking—and sunrising—and—"

Steve looked sympathetic. "Just like you told me, Mr. Martin—at that age a girl hasn't got the brains of a galloping goose. Just figure what might have happened to my muskrats if I'd gone ahead and eloped with her, like I was thinking of."

"You were?" said Bob. His face grew severe. "I must say when I was in love, I had more faith in my girl's future. Nothing discouraged me—nothing!"

"Well"—Steve got lazily to his feet—"things weren't so rushed in those days. A man didn't need brains to get ahead—" He looked up in time to see Bob swallowing a fit. "Anyway, Mr. Martin, I've got to plant waterfern and wild lilies and get rid of some mink going after my babies."

"Well—er—look." Bob Martin was slowly becoming desperate. "How about me shooting the mink, while you—I used to be a crack shot—"

"Sorry," said Steve firmly. "You might mistake a muskrat for a mink."

There comes a time in every man's life when he's no longer sure that the world revolves around his wishes. That time had come to Bob Martin. Something was wrong—somehow he had treated these two as children—he had split them up, all right—but for what?

He asked himself that question again when Susie dished up supper. Raw celery, raw carrots, raw peas (hard), brown bread (stale), water in place of tea. When Bob sat down, he felt unaccountably faint.

"Oh, Lord," he said. "Oh, Lord, with my false teeth, deliver me from uncooked meals."

Susie came in from the kitchen, singing, "I Love To Get Up In The Morning."

"Daddy, Old Bogey says we have come to eat entirely the wrong foods—"

"Oh, Lord," groaned Bob piteously, over and over. "Oh, Lord!"

"Father!" Susie was filled with instant agitation. "Daddy, don't you feel well?"



"To think our vacation is coming to an end."



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"KING OF PAIN"  
**LINIMENT**

Bob buried his face in his arms.

"Susie," he said, "I feel terrible. I don't want to hurt your feelings, Susan, but I can't go on. That Bogey is a fiend—"

"But, Daddy, you said it would do me the world of good to get new ideas!"

"Susie, I can't stand it at my age. If I don't get your mother back to cook for me—and plaster my corns—"

Susie appeared to waver. She hugged her father, and her arms were tight and young and sweet. "Daddy, if I've carried it too far—"

"Awgh, it's my own fault! Baby—I guess I—I just grew up into a selfish old dad—wanting you never to leave home. Why, I see now—love goes with youth like—like comfort goes with old age."

After a fair imitation of the old supper, Susan said doubtfully:

"Daddy, you wouldn't care for just a little walk to pick you up—just a couple of miles—"

Bob pulled his toes up under his chair, winced. "Baby, don't!" As casually as possible, he surveyed his love of eighteen years. He shook his head. "Er—Susie, do you ever read Dorothy Dix? I mean—er—do you ever see Steve at all now?"

Susie was vague and innocent. Bob cleared his throat. With a good supper and no walk, a bit of his old confidence was returning.

"Child, we fathers are always thinking of our daughters' welfare."

"Yes, Father," said Susie, dutifully.

"Well—ten thousand dollars' worth of muskrats—every year, mind you—is a lot to think about."

"Yes, Father," Susie said.

"And I mean, you'd be close to your mother and me—that's something, too. You could slip over any old time—" Bob brightened. "Say! Why don't you take the car into town and phone your mother? Tell her to tell you how come I proposed to her that summer—I never did understand it myself."

"Over the phone?" said Susie.

"It just might pay you," said Bob Martin casually. "Then if you want to, go around and see if Steve got rid of that mink. If he hasn't, tell him I'll be glad to take a whack at it for him—"

It was twilight, with nighthawks twanging over the marsh. Bob Martin sat on the porch, in his slippers, and smoked. A loon called over the blue-dim swamp and he thought of Steve. If something hadn't happened, Susie would be home by now. He chuckled.

"Mother'll sure be surprised to learn I've finally got those two together again—or I'm far wrong," he said to himself.

And at that precise moment, Steve was musing his daughter's hair and laughing. "I dunno what you did to poor old Pop, but honestly, I never felt so sorry for anyone. Sue, was it your idea?"

"Well, not entirely," said Susan Martin. "I'll admit I did enjoy the camp and the hikes—but it was Mother who saw instantly how we could bring father around to our way of thinking. In fact," Susan said, "Mom sort of suggested the whole thing to me."

Something to get excited about!

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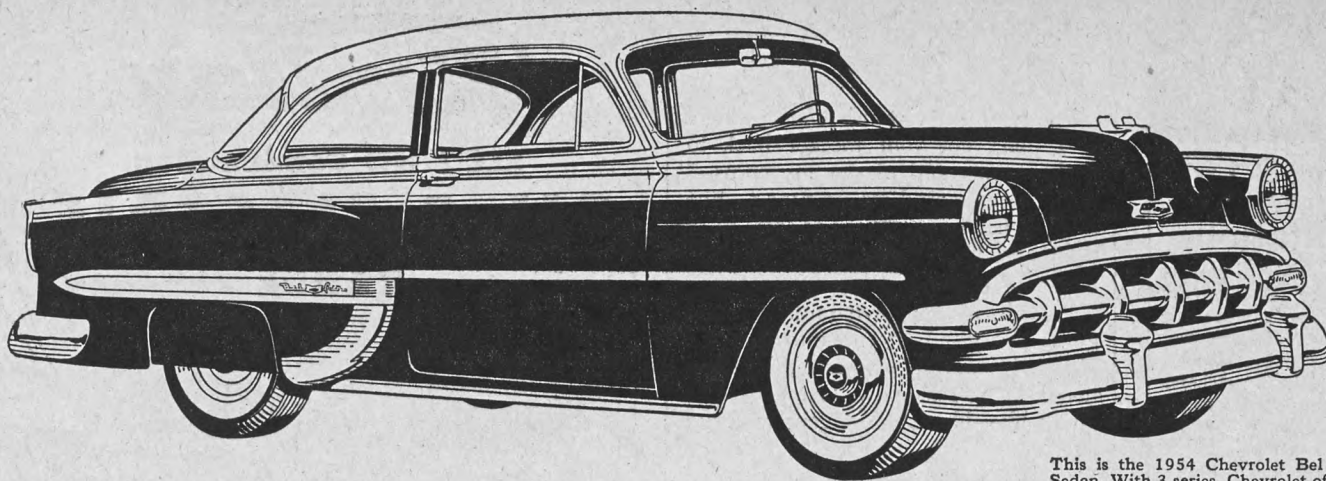


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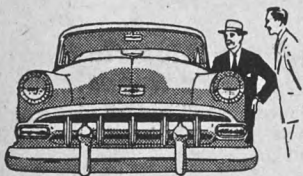




This is the 1954 Chevrolet Bel Air 2-Door Sedan. With 3 series, Chevrolet offers a model to meet every individual and family need.

## These facts about the New Chevrolet can help you make an important decision

Don't you agree that buying a new car calls for careful consideration? Regardless of make, it involves a substantial amount of money and a lot of future satisfaction. This information can give you a better idea of comparative value and help you decide which make to buy.



### How well do I like its looks?

That's one question, of course, that only you can answer.

All we can tell you is that we hear a lot of nice things about Chevrolet's new styling. People seem to like the new front-end and rear-end designs, and the way the bumpers curve even farther around the fenders. They like the new styling touches all around the car and the wide choice of bright new colors and two-tone combinations. A good many tell us that Chevrolet has a decided edge over the other cars in its field for smooth and graceful lines.

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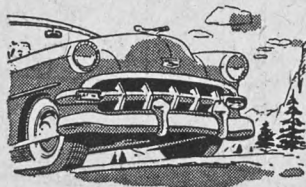
you to look over the new interiors. Just sit in the car, if you will. Feel the quality of the fabrics and notice the more generous use of vinyl trim where it adds the most to good looks and long life. See how beautifully color is brought inside the car to harmonize with the exterior color.



In all these ways, you'll find evidence of superior quality and workmanship. And after all, isn't that what you would expect in Body by Fisher — the largest and most famous manufacturer of automobile bodies in the world?

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valve-in-head horsepower in the low-priced field. There's the "Blue-Flame 125" engine teamed with Powerglide automatic transmission and optional on all models at extra cost. In gearshift models, you get the powerful "Blue-Flame 115" engine.

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As you may know, Chevrolet is by far the most popular car in this country. That's true today and it's been true for a good many years now. But it couldn't be true — or wouldn't be true — unless Chevrolet gave its owners an extra measure of satisfaction and value.



### How much does it cost?

There's a short, sweet answer to that one: Chevrolet is Canada's lowest priced car. This lower cost is made possible by the greater production facilities and purchasing power of the world's largest manufacturer of automobiles. That is why Chevrolet can offer you all the advantages we've told you about here — and many more, too.

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# The Countrywoman

## Spring's Promise

In lucid light or shadow mass,  
Where silence calls but cannot sing,  
A tree is like an empty glass  
Waiting the wine of spring.  
And at that moment it shall fill,  
When all clear space begins to glow  
With tender greenness o'er the hill . . .  
And gently overflow.

—EFFIE BUTLER.

## Wayside Gardens

In every wayside garden you will find  
A rose or two,  
Perhaps mignonette or pansies,  
And always there is rue  
For hopes whose blooms were scattered  
Before the dreams came true,  
But in every wayside garden you will find  
A rose or two.

—CHARLOTTE BOUCHER.

## The Artist in Canada

“HOW are we going to keep our artists alive and give them the incentive to go on with their work?”

“To live the truly human kind of life, which is also divine, it is not just a question of being kind to artists but of being kind to ourselves. Art is communication, simple and essential, and also creation. The artist's job is to make sense with his special gift of insight to reveal ‘truth’ to himself and others.”

These arresting thoughts were part of the address given by Dr. Hilda Neatby to a luncheon meeting of the Manitoba Registered Music Teachers' Association during Easter week, in Winnipeg.

“Like all artists, the musician endeavors to communicate. Pleasant though it may be to compose and write music, you want others to hear it. Ordinary people have sensations—but they do not create out of their experience. They live on and are moved by artists who show them new beauties and truths which are part of the valid experiences of their day.

“The problems of the artist in Canada are: (1) maintenance; (2) getting his work published so that others may see it; (3) inspiration and competent criticism.”

There are a number of ways in which artists could be helped financially: by wealthy enlightened patrons; by voluntary groups who support their work; through the patronage of commercial firms; or by government aid. In none of these have heroic efforts been made in Canada. One of the things Dr. Neatby observed as a member of the Massey Commission on Letters, Arts and Sciences in Canada was how poor Canada was in travel scholarships. France through its government has given scholarships to Canadians to go to France to study but Canada does not seem able or willing to spend money for similar endeavors.

Artists in older countries had their schools and traditions, founded in an age of great spiritual and moral security. The Canadian artist began to raise his individual voice against the background of the western world, in an era of dissolving standards and discarding values. In an age of question and doubt of an “ultimate and existing truth” the artist may well be bewildered.

In this country, the artist has certain handicaps. The greatest possibly being space. Canada has “small deposits of population, scattered across a wide area which makes it difficult for the artist to know the country as a whole and often means that he has few contacts with great teachers and gifted artists. Each Canadian community is in fairly close contact with corresponding geographic areas in the

*Some pointed thoughts gleaned from the remarks of two distinguished visitors concerning the value and function of creative artists in the communication of ideas*

by AMY J. ROE

United States. There is also the more subtle separations of the language and modes of thought between the French and English-speaking sections in this country.

“For the English-speaking Canadians, the obvious destiny would seem to be to blend their cultural lives with those of neighbors of a common language and tradition. To a large extent this is done,” said Dr. Neatby. “That it is not done completely is part of the whole paradox of Canadian survival as a national entity.”

We could be the richer because of the two cultures in Canada; French and English. Revolutions and war in Europe have flung into our country many people who possess immensely significant qualifications. Art is universal and the artist must express himself in a way that is understood by all mankind.

Oddly enough Canadian music compositions are known in Paris. Dr. Neatby told a story of a French musician who said that he recognized them by their “lonely sound.” She claimed that Canadian artists have now passed the “necessary stage of adolescent colonialism. This self-conscious period expressed itself in terms of paintings and sketches showing the beaver, maple leaf and red-coated mounties as being typically Canadian. And all too often landscapes, lacking any sign of human habitation stand out in Canadian art exhibits.”

Progress is being made toward more adequate expression of our unique national identity. Artists are producing work that is recognized the world over “as having a definite Canadian accent. But this is not to say that it has reached full maturity. We shall not know the extent of our collective artistic capacity, unless and until we extend further material encouragement to the individuals who possess it.”

So the subject was left neatly poised in the minds of her audience. The future of the artist in Canada depends on increased aid, support and encouragement. The matter must be approached discreetly, generosity given with understanding and wisdom. Artists must be poked and prodded into doing their best work.

The question is not what the artist is going to do for Canada? It is for each Canadian: what are you going to do about the artist?

## The Way of a Writer

NICHOLAS MONSARRAT, author of the famous novel “The Cruel Sea,” which has been filmed and widely shown, both here and abroad, came to live in Canada about a year ago. He is Director of the United Kingdom Information Office, Ottawa, having served from 1946 to 1953 in a similar post in South Africa. He was born in Liverpool, England, and was educated at Cambridge University where he graduated with honors in law.

His father, a doctor, wanted his son to follow the practice of medicine but Nicholas thought that law would be more pleasant. As a lad of 17 he had started writing and found when actually in a law office, that he much preferred writing to reading law books. As he put it in a talk to a Winnipeg audience, “My uncle, in whose office I was working, suggested that I give up law and devote my time to what I wanted most to do.” Altogether he has written 19 novels—many of which he describes as “very poor.” Joining the navy in 1940, Mr. Monsarrat served on Atlantic escort duties with the rank of Lieutenant Commander R.N.V.R.

At a meeting of the Canadian Authors, he was asked a question by a university professor, a man who had himself done some writing outside of his teaching hours: “May I ask, Sir, why you write?”

“I started writing when I was very young, because I liked it. I suppose my idea, then, was to become famous and possibly rich. Later, I wrote because I liked writing and hoped to add something significant to the literature of my time. Later on, earning my living by being a civil servant, I wrote for an economic reason, I needed to earn more money. Now, I suppose my motive is a mixture of all three of these reasons,” was his answer.

Mr. Monsarrat sets himself a daily stint of writing not less than 500 words a day, no matter how crowded a day may be with routine duties, travel or social demands. Often he produces many more than the required daily stint—but even if he lives up to the commitment he has some 180,000 words a year—and so books get written and published. He “roughs” out a draft of the story, disciplines himself to stay with the draft plan and to resist the “brilliant ideas which come in the middle of the night” and does revising in a second re-write.

Nicholas Monsarrat regards writing as fun, finds it relaxing after routine duties. He is now well along the way on a new novel, about: “A country, I’ve invented, with color problems similar to South Africa, with almost every kind of white and black persons in it—from the highest to the lowest types of civilization.”

Next he proposes to do one on the growth of the Commonwealth. Then after a space of time and perhaps at some distance, he may undertake the writing of a Canadian novel based on the insight and knowledge gained from his experience of living in this country.

## Communication

ONLY those who never have attempted to paint or to write ignore what agony it is to communicate to others what one wants to represent or to say. And the joy of creative art comes when one is lured to hope that he has found the cipher, the symbol, the generic shape or scrawl, the hieroglyph, the convention, in short, that will do it. The prosaic task is to prove it and fix it with pen and pencil so that to others it will mean almost what it means to ourselves.

*We cannot kindle when we will  
The fire that in the heart resides,  
The spirit bloweth and is still,  
In mystery our heart abides;  
But tasks in hours of insight willed  
Can be through hours of gloom fulfilled.*

—MATHEW ARNOLD.

From Bernard Berenson in “Seeing and Knowing” (Macmillan).

## To Be a Child

KNOW you what it is to be a child? It is to be something very different from the man of today. It is to have a spirit yet streaming from the waters of baptism; it is to believe in loveliness; to believe in belief; it is to be so little that elves can reach to whisper in your ear; it is to turn pumpkins into coaches, and mice into horses, lowness into loftiness, and nothing into everything, for each child has its fairy godmother in its own soul; it is to live in a nutshell and to count yourself the king of infinite space; it is

*To see the world in a grain of sand,  
And a heaven in a wild flower,  
Hold infinity in the palm of your hand,  
And eternity in an hour;*

it is to know not as yet that you are under sentence of life, nor petition that it be commuted into death. —From Francis Thompson’s “Essay on Shelly,” which first appeared in the Dublin Review for July, 1908. Published in U.S. by Charles Scribner’s Sons.



# Wedding Customs

by DOROTHEA B. VINCENT

**L**ITTLE does the modern bride know as she walks down the aisle that every step and gesture follows an ancient custom that links her to the earliest periods of human existence. In the enchanted realm of fact and fancy today's ceremony has delightful symbols and history, gathered through the ages of marriage by capture, purchase and mutual consent.

The word "wedding" tells the evolution from the time when wives were purchased. The "wed" was the price to be paid in cash, cattle, horses or property. From this came the word "wedding" meaning the plighting of troth according to terms arranged. Thus the giving away of the bride is another symbol of those days when the bride was sold.

In other far-off days primitive men captured their wives. Strong and courageous, a youth would invade the sleeping camp of some hostile tribe and carry off the maiden of his choice. She was the living trophy of his cunning endeavour by whom he incited the envy of his tribe. On his dangerous mission he would perhaps take along a stalwart companion to help drive off the girl's protectors. From this may have originated the present best man who stands with the groom.

The bridesmaids are probably from this custom also, when the bride had attendants to protect her. When marriage by capture died out it became proper for her to pretend she had been captured, thus unwilling to accompany her groom. It was considered the modest thing to do. It has also been claimed that they are sequent to the Roman rites that had to be witnessed by ten acquaintances of the bride's family.

Today's bride in her finery differs very little from the Roman bride in her white robe and veil, with a crown of flowers on her hair. White, still most acceptable for the bridal gown, denoted joy and was a symbol of purity to the ancients. Though there is no definite origin or significance to the veil it may be an ancient symbol of the bride's submission to her husband. It is possible that it might have been worn as symbolic of her freedom before her marriage. In European countries it was often stored away to later become the woman's shroud.

The little flower girl unwittingly follows a beautiful mediaeval custom. Two little flower girls, usually sisters dressed alike, walked down the aisle before the bride, their arms overflowing with garlands of wheat. This indi-

cated the hope that the union would be fruitful and that the couple would have abundant happiness.

Flowers have long added their unchallenged beauty to the wedding rites. Orange blossoms have been the undisputed favorites since the earliest days for they are believed to bring happiness and good luck. It is told that returning Crusaders brought them to Europe. The Saracens used sprigs of this blossom to crown the bridal veil as symbols of fruitfulness, as the orange tree bears fruit and flowers simultaneously. The red rose, dedicated to Venus, ancient symbol of love and joy, has also been a favorite with the bride.

"With all my worldly goods I thee endow" has deeper meaning when it is known that the ring placed on the bride's finger was the earliest medium through which a man could promise that she would share authority with him in their new household. The circular ring speaks of love and affection shared mutually in a continual circle from one to the other. It is believed that the Egyptians were the first to use wedding rings, and that Christians were using them in the year 860. The Romans used iron rings. In Iceland a groom placed a large ring of gold, silver, stone or bone on the finger of his bride. In Mediaeval England peasants used circlets of rush, wood or leather for want of money to purchase better.

**T**HE canopy so often erected against the event of bad weather has been used through the centuries for more colorful reasons. It was often used to protect the bride and groom if the gods were not satisfied with the marriage. The Chinese followed this custom by using a large umbrella, which they regarded as sacred, to shield the couple. In ancient days the bride was carried in a canopied litter during the marriage procession. The Hebrews covered the bride and groom with a square vestment called a chuppah. In Egypt the bride walks under a canopy escorted by two men with drawn swords, a descent from marriage by purchase when the bride was delivered to seal the marriage contract.

One custom common to all ages is the universal practice of feasting and drinking before or after the ceremony. The wedding cake is a happy result from a visit to Eng'and by a French cook. Guest at a wedding feast he observed the awkward piling of small cakes into one mound. Custom dictated that the bride and groom at-

tempt to kiss each other over this mound. He devised the idea of icing the mound into a solid mass. From this notion was created the modern confection of beauty.

June, favored by many brides, was the preference in ancient days, especially in Rome. In this month it was believed that Juno, special guardian of marriage, goddess of wives and motherhood would grant special protection.

"Happy is the bride that the sun shines on" was no idle saying long ago. Primitive people realized the power of fertilization in the sun. Thus the bride whose wedding day was bright and sunny was certain to be happy and have good fortune. Rain foretold evil and sorrow. The day preceding her marriage a Hindu bride rose early and looked in the face of the sun. The bridal couple of Central Asia greeted the sun together.

Ancient Israel first cautioned that something blue be worn. Symbol of fidelity, love and purity, it was added to the borders of the wedding garments.

Rice and grain, emblems of fruitfulness, have been scattered on the bride and groom since the days of the primitive Indo-Europeans. It has been claimed that it was considered food by which the evil spirits were appeased. In Slavonic rites the bridal couple is showered with wheat, nuts, corn, hops and even coins. In some districts of Russia the sprinkling is done in the church as a form of blessing after the ceremony. In Siam rice, flowers and scented oil is used. The Greeks poured sweetmeats and flour over the couple to symbolize an abundance of all that is desirable, sweet and good. In modern Greece they are still tossed upon the bridal pair by friends and relatives from windows. The Hindu couple are showered with rice by all those present. In modern France hempseed or wheat is used. In parts of Scotland barley is thrown. In many districts of England shortbread or meal cakes are broken over the happy pair. Through the ages in all corners of the globe some manner of showering the bridal couple takes place which is related to our modern use of confetti and rice.

**T**HE deep-rooted superstition that evil spirits hovered over the marriage rites is responsible for our milder methods of creating a joyful din at the conclusion of the ceremony. In China and in southern Europe fireworks and guns were used to scatter

(Please turn to page 62)





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**Deep Gloss Carnu**  
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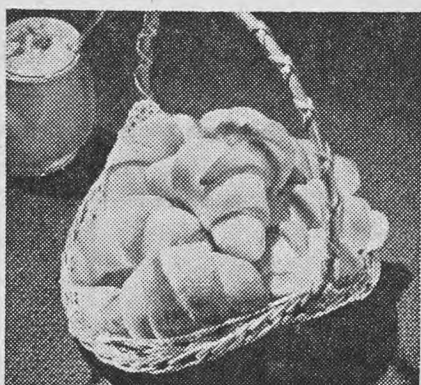
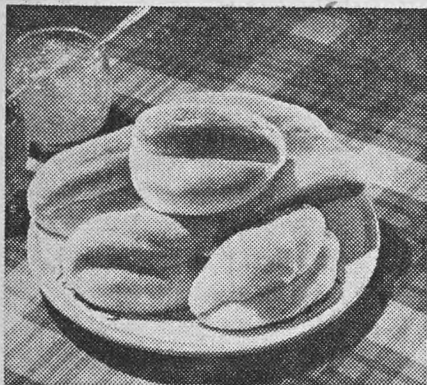
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### BASIC ROLL DOUGH

#### Scald

- 1 cup milk
- 5 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 2½ teaspoons salt
- 4 tablespoons shortening

Remove from heat and cool to lukewarm. In the meantime, measure into a large bowl

- ½ cup lukewarm water
- 1 teaspoon granulated sugar

and stir until sugar is dissolved. Sprinkle with contents of

- 1 envelope Fleischmann's Active Dry Yeast

Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well; stir in cooled milk mixture and

- ½ cup lukewarm water

#### Stir in

- 3 cups once-sifted bread flour
- and beat until smooth and elastic; work in 3 cups more (about) once-sifted bread flour

Turn out on lightly-floured board and knead dough lightly until smooth and elastic. Place in a greased bowl and grease top of dough. Cover and set dough in warm place, free from draught, and let rise until doubled in bulk. Turn out dough on lightly-floured board and knead lightly until smooth. Divide into 4 equal portions and finish as follows:

#### 1. PARKER HOUSE ROLLS

Roll out one portion of dough on lightly-floured board to ½-inch thickness; cut into rounds with 3-inch cutter; brush with melted butter or margarine. Grease each round deeply with dull side of knife, a little to one side of centre; fold larger half over smaller half and press along the fold. Place, just touching each other, on greased cookie sheet. Grease tops. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in a hot oven, 400°, about 12 minutes. Makes 6 rolls.

#### 2. CLOVER LEAF ROLLS

Cut one portion of dough into 8 equal-sized pieces; cut each piece into 3 little pieces. Shape each little piece of dough into a ball and brush with melted butter or margarine; arrange 3 balls in each greased muffin pan. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in a hot oven, 400°, about 12 minutes. Makes 8 rolls.

#### 3. FAN TANS

Roll out one portion of dough on lightly-floured board into a rectangle a scant ¼-inch thick; loosen dough, cover and let rest 5 minutes. Brush dough with melted butter or margarine and cut into strips 1½ inches wide. Pile 7 strips one upon the other and cut into 1½-inch lengths. Place each piece, a cut side up, in a greased muffin pan; separate the slices a little at the top. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in a hot oven, 400°, about 12 minutes. Makes 8 rolls.

#### 4. CRESCENT ROLLS

Roll out one portion of dough on lightly-floured board into a 14-inch round; brush with melted butter or margarine and cut into 12 pie-shaped wedges. Roll up each wedge of dough, beginning at the outside and rolling toward the point. Arrange, well apart, on greased cookie sheet; bend each roll into a crescent shape. Brush with melted butter or margarine and sprinkle with salt. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in a hot oven, 400°, about 12 minutes. Makes 12 rolls.

## Salmon Meals

answer the homemaker's need for an appetizing simple-to-make main course

SUMMER meals that are quick and easy give the homemaker a chance to be out-of-doors in the garden or doing extra summer chores during the day. Canned salmon dishes that are both nutritious and appetizing can be the answer to the busy housewife's meal problems.

Many of these salmon dishes can be prepared ahead of time or mixed and left in the refrigerator ready to pop into the oven in time to be served hot for supper. They are filling enough to satisfy even the most immense appetites. A salad, rolls and dessert are all that are needed to complete the meal.

Bring variations and novelty to salmon dishes by the addition of new flavorings. Add chopped pickles to a salmon loaf, chopped green pepper or parsley to a casserole, spiced tomato to other salmon oven dishes, then make enough for seconds all around. There won't be any leftovers.

### Salmon Rice Loaf

- ½ lb. can (1 c.) salmon
- 1 large c. rice
- 2 eggs
- 2 T. butter
- 1 lemon
- Salt
- Pepper

Flake salmon and drain off liquor. Cook rice and rinse in cold water. Mix rice, salmon and beaten eggs. Add salmon liquor, melted butter, lemon juice, salt and pepper to taste. Mix gently. Bake in greased casserole for 1 hour at 350° F. Turn out on hot plate and serve immediately.

### Salmon Loaf

- 1 T. butter
- 1 T. flour
- 1 c. hot milk
- 2 c. canned salmon
- 2 eggs
- 1 c. soft bread crumbs
- 1 hard-cooked egg
- 2 pickles

Melt butter, add flour, mix and cook one minute, then add hot milk, gradually; season. Add canned salmon, beaten eggs, bread crumbs. Chop cooked egg and pickle. Add to salmon mixture. Add chopped parsley if desired. Pour into greased baking dish. Place in pan of hot water and cook one hour at 350° F. Unmold. Serve hot or cold.

### Scalloped Salmon and Potatoes

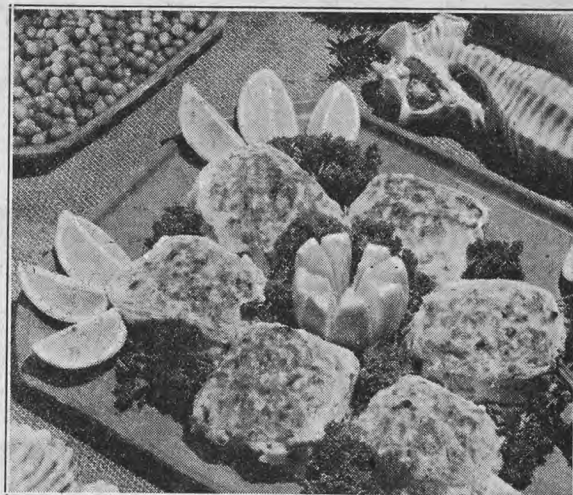
- 4 c. sliced raw potatoes
- 2 T. butter
- 1 T. fat
- 4 T. flour
- 2 c. milk
- 1 onion
- ¾ tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. pepper
- 1 c. salmon

Cook potatoes in boiling salted water for 10 minutes. Drain. Melt butter and fat in top of double boiler. Stir in flour, then add milk, minced onion, salt and pepper and cook, stirring until smooth and thickened. Add parsley, if desired. Arrange potatoes and salmon in alternate layers in greased casserole. Pour sauce over and bake at 350° F. for 45 minutes. Serves 6.

### Salmon Bread Pie

- 1 tall can salmon
- ½ c. sliced green pepper
- ¾ c. sliced onion
- 2 T. flour
- 1 can tomatoes (2½ c.)
- 9 slices bread
- 2 T. butter
- ½ tsp. salt

Flake salmon. Toast 6 of the 9 slices bread; cut in triangles. Melt 1 T. butter in sauce pan; add onions and pepper, cook slowly 5 minutes. Add flour, blending in



Quick-and-easy salmon cakes with lemon wedges please the entire family.

### Salmon Souffle

- 1 lb. can salmon
- ½ c. soft bread crumbs
- ½ c. milk
- Lemon juice
- 3 eggs
- Salt
- Cayenne

Flake salmon. Add seasonings and lemon juice to taste. Cook bread crumbs in milk 10 minutes. Separate eggs. Beat yolks until thick and lemon colored, add to salmon mixture. Beat egg whites until stiff and dry. Cut and fold into mixture. Turn into buttered baking dish. Bake at 325° F. 1 hour or until firm and brown. Serve with sauce if desired.

### Salmon Fritters

- ½ lb. can salmon
- Pepper, salt and vinegar
- 1 c. flour
- 1 egg
- 1 c. milk

Mix salmon with salt, pepper and vinegar to taste. Mix well with fork. Spread generously between slices of buttered bread to make thin sandwiches. Trim off crusts and cut in halves. Make a batter of flour, egg, milk and salt to taste. Dip each sandwich in batter; fry in butter until crisp and brown. Serve hot.

### Salmon Cakes

- 1 c. salmon
- 1 egg
- Pepper and salt
- 1 T. butter
- 1½ c. mashed potatoes
- ½ tsp. onion juice

Beat egg, add salt and pepper, flaked salmon, melted butter, potatoes and onion juice. Beat until fluffy. Form into cakes, roll in finely sifted dry bread crumbs. Fry, serve hot with or without a cheese or tomato sauce. Serves 4 to 5.

### Salmon-Tomato Salad

- 6 medium tomatoes
- 2 c. salmon
- 2 hard-cooked eggs
- 1 large green pepper
- 6 lettuce cups
- 3 c. potato salad

Peel tomatoes and cut out stem ends. Cut each tomato into 6 sections leaving sections joined together at bottom. Place in crisp lettuce cups and fill in between sections with flaked salmon that has been seasoned with salt, pepper and vinegar. Fill in center with chopped hard-cooked egg mixed with chopped pepper or green onion. Arrange side servings of potato salad. Finish plate with thinly sliced radishes, lemon slices and green onions. Pass salad dressing.



# Party Sandwiches

For June showers, parties, and celebrations serve richly flavored sandwiches of assorted shapes and sizes

ATTRACTIVE and delicious sandwiches for any occasion call for several varieties of bread, dark and light, square and round loaves, buns, crackers and quick breads. The butter should be smooth and even spreading, but not melted. Half a cup of milk worked into a pound of butter makes an easily used and economical spread.

For a crowd use mass-production methods. Arrange the slices in a long row. Spread each with butter—a short, flexible spatula is easy to use. Top every other slice with filling, cover with an empty slice and stack. If the sandwiches are to be kept for several hours wrap each variety separately in waxed paper, cover all with a moist towel and store in the refrigerator.

As you plan for a variety of sandwiches think of flavor and color combinations that please. Plan, too, on several shapes and types, dainty two-slice sandwiches, open-faced shaped sandwiches that have been cut out with cookie cutters, crackers, rolled and ribbon sandwiches.

Tangy, moist fillings are best, and for fancy sandwiches use a smooth filling that spreads easily on very thin slices. Cream cheese, an excellent base, is delicious when flavored with fruits, nuts, pimento or salad dressing and egg or meat. Meat pastes make tasty fillings mixed with pickle or salad dressing and onion or celery, and garnishes of radish roses, carrot strips, pickles and olives add color and taste appeal to a sandwich plate. A quart of filling makes 20 to 25 two-slice sandwiches and a pound of butter covers three loaves of sliced sandwich bread.

## Asparagus Cubes

Cut day-old bread into cubes 1 by 1 by 2 inches. Spread with condensed cream of asparagus soup (as it comes from the can). Roll in grated cheese. When time to serve, toast to a golden brown in very hot oven or under broiler.

## Cheese Straws

1 c. shredded cheese  
3 T. butter  
4½ T. milk  
¾ c. flour

1½ c. soft bread crumbs  
Salt, paprika, cayenne

Blend cheese and butter. Add milk. Mix flour with bread crumbs and a dash

of salt, paprika and cayenne. Blend into cheese mixture. Knead lightly until smooth. Roll to pastry thickness, cut into ½-inch strips 6 inches long. Bake on greased cookie sheets at 400° F. for 10 minutes or until brown. Serve hot.

## Mushroom Squares

Cut day-old bread into thick slices. Cut each slice into 4 squares. Spread with a thick layer of mushroom soup, as it comes from the can. At serving time brown in very hot oven.

## Cheese-Its

Spread cubes of day-old bread on three sides with shredded cheese that has been creamed with an equal amount of butter. Brown in hot oven just before serving.

## Rolled Sandwiches

Use fresh bread and remove crusts. Cut lengthwise of loaf in thin slices. Spread with butter and filling (banana and peanut butter, cheese and olives, minced ham, egg and pickle). Roll up as for jelly roll and seal edge with butter. Wrap in waxed paper and chill. When ready to serve slice in thin slices.

## Ribbon Sandwiches

Remove crusts from a brown and a white loaf of bread. Cut slices lengthwise of each loaf. Butter one slice and fill; butter each side of slice of second color. Place over filling; add filling and top with buttered slice of same color as lower slice. Same or varied fillings may be used for each layer. Wrap in waxed paper and chill thoroughly. Slice in ½-inch slices to serve.

## Frosted Sandwich Loaf

This loaf of sandwiches is cut right at the table, so may be garnished when made and refrigerated until serving time.

Using brown and white loaves and alternating slices, or a white loaf of day-old bread, remove crusts. Cut each loaf in four or five lengthwise slices. Place a slice on a platter, spread with mayonnaise, and cover with sliced tomatoes. Spread another slice with mayonnaise or dressing and place, dressing side down, on tomatoes. Spread top with ham salad mixture. Cover with third slice of bread, spread with mayonnaise and cover with lettuce. Spread fourth layer with mayonnaise and place on lettuce. Spread with egg salad and cover with last slice of bread. Soften a 3-ounce package of cream cheese with milk. Frost the entire outside of the loaf of slices with the cream cheese. Chill an hour before serving. Garnish with parsley

Rich Old-Fashioned

# Strawberry Shortcake



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## INDIVIDUAL STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKES

2 cups sifted pastry flour	½ cup chilled shortening
or 1¾ cups sifted all-purpose flour	1 egg, well beaten
3½ tsps. Magic Baking Powder	Milk
½ tsp. salt	Soft butter or margarine
Pinch of grated nutmeg	Sweetened sliced strawberries
3 tsps. fine granulated sugar	Lightly-sweetened whipped cream
	6 whole strawberries

Grease a cookie sheet. Preheat oven to 400° (hot). Mix and sift twice, then sift into a bowl, the flour, Magic Baking Powder, salt, nutmeg and sugar. Cut in the shortening finely. Combine the well-beaten egg and ¼ cup milk. Make a well in the flour mixture and add liquids; mix lightly with a fork, adding a little more milk, if necessary, to make a soft dough that is a little stiffer than a plain biscuit dough. Knead for 10 seconds on lightly-floured baking board and pat or roll out to ¾-inch thickness; shape with floured 2½-inch round cookie cutter. Arrange, well apart, on prepared cookie sheet; brush with milk. Bake in preheated oven 14 to 16 minutes. Split hot shortcakes and spread with butter or margarine; arrange bottom halves on individual serving plates and pile with sweetened sliced strawberries; cover with top halves of shortcakes. Top each shortcake with a spoonful of whipped cream—or with more fruit and cream—and add a whole berry. Yield—6 shortcakes.



Add a festive note to a bridal shower with a variety of dainty sandwiches.





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and cut in thick slices at the table. Serves 6 to 8.

### Ham Salad Filling

- |                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| ½ c. ground ham         | 1 T. chopped pimento |
| 2 chopped sweet pickles | Salad dressing       |

Blend ham, pickles and pimento. Add salad dressing until of spreading consistency.

### Pineapple Cheese Wafers

- |                     |                                |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| 3 oz. cream cheese  | ½ c. drained crushed pineapple |
| 3 T. salad dressing |                                |
| ½ c. chopped nuts   |                                |

Blend ingredients. Spread on crisp crackers, or buttered whole wheat bread that has been cut with cookie cutter into rounds, heart shapes, etc.

### Fish Squares

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 c. salmon or tuna   | ½ c. chopped celery   |
| ½ c. chopped cucumber | ¼ c. salad dressing   |
| 1 T. grated onion     | Salt, pepper, paprika |
| 2 tsp. lemon juice    | 1½ T. lemon juice     |

Combine all ingredients. Spread on bread buttered and cut in squares. Garnish with pickle or olive slices.

### Carrot-Peanut Butter Rounds

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 4 T. peanut butter  | ¼ c. grated carrot |
| 2 T. salad dressing |                    |

Blend peanut butter and dressing. Spread on buttered bread circles or oblongs. Top with finely grated raw carrot.

### Tutti Frutti Spread

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 3 oz. cream cheese | ½ c. chopped dates   |
| 2 T. butter        | 1 c. chopped walnuts |
| 3 T. lemon juice   |                      |
| 1 T. corn syrup    | ½ tsp. salt          |

Cream cheese; gradually add butter, lemon juice and syrup. Add dates, nuts and salt.

### Suggested Fillings

- Cottage cheese, chopped dill pickle, chopped bacon and dressing.
- Cottage cheese, chopped dill pickle, olives, walnuts and dressing.
- Cream cheese, chopped bacon and olives and a dash of mace.
- Cream cheese and chopped dates.
- Cream cheese and chopped pimento.
- Cream cheese and horseradish.
- Cream cheese, tart jelly and chopped nuts.
- Cottage cheese and orange marmalade.
- Cream cheese, hard-cooked eggs, dressing, pickles relish, chopped celery.
- Salmon, horseradish and lemon juice.
- Salmon, chopped celery and pickle, lemon juice, dressing.
- Tuna fish, celery and dressing.
- Chopped cucumbers, chives, celery and dressing.
- Chopped salted peanuts, olives, celery and dressing.
- Chopped celery, olives, pickles and dressing.
- Chopped dates, nuts, orange rind, and cream or fruit juice.
- Chopped walnuts, olives and dressing.
- Peanut butter, relish and dressing.
- Chopped dates, figs, raisins, crushed pineapple and dressing.
- Chopped chicken, celery and dressing.
- Ground wieners, onions, pickles, dressing and seasonings.
- Ground ham, pickle, onion with Worcestershire sauce and dressing.
- Ground meat loaf and catsup.
- Chopped ham and raisins and dressing.
- Ground tongue, horseradish and dressing.
- Chopped chicken, almonds, and dressing.
- Ground canned pork loaf with relish, onion juice and dressing.
- Ground bologna with horseradish and dressing.

# OH..SO GOOD!



### Apple Crisp Pudding

- 6 large apples.
  - 1½ cups of hot water.
  - 16 Paulin's Peerless Cream Sodas (unsalted).
  - ¾ cup of brown sugar.
  - ½ cup of butter
  - Pinch of salt.
- Peel and slice apples into saucepan, add water and cook until tender; then turn into buttered pudding dish. Roll Soda Crackers into fine crumbs, place in mixing bowl, add sugar, butter and salt and blend. Sprinkle mixture over apples and bake in hot oven 400 degrees F. for 25 minutes. Serve warm with cream.

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# The Art of Hospitality

- Do not monopolize your visitors' time

by GLORIA M. LOGAN

ONE day last summer I was invited to spend the weekend with friends in a nearby city. It was to be my first visit in several years and I planned a schedule which included a visit to the museum, a ballet performance and a tour of the local points of interest.

When I arrived at the station I was met by my enthusiastic friends, all evidently determined to show me a good time. I was rushed to a swanky restaurant, dined, taken to the theatre where a concert violinist was giving a recital, then to another restaurant for a late snack and thence home (the long way that included several stop-overs so that I might meet some of my hostess' friends).

By the time we arrived at the apartment I was mentally and physically exhausted, unable to take part in the conversation to which I had looked forward with anticipation.

Next morning my hostess and I went shopping at the large department stores. We had lunch at a downtown restaurant, saw a movie, stopped briefly at the art gallery (I had allowed two hours for this on my original schedule) then home again.

"What do you want to do this evening?" queried my host after dinner. "How about a good old football game?"

"Well, I did have a ticket to the ballet," I protested feebly.

"Nonsense, you'll have a better time at the game."

So we went to a place where a lot of men in red and white sweaters fought over something the commentator called a "pigskin." The exuberant fan behind me kept pounding me on the shoulders and shouting encouraging words to the players, in my ear; while I thought wistfully of graceful ballerinas and hoped the cleaners knew what to do for a mustard-stained white linen suit.

During my three-day visit I was caught up in a whirlwind of activity that left me breathless. About the only thing on my list for that visit that I did manage to squeeze in was the Authors' Meeting. Since it was the reason for my being in the city in the first place that was a minor victory.

I know I should have been pleased that my friends were so anxious to have me enjoy myself. I don't mean to sound unappreciative, but there it was! A country wife doesn't get too many weekends away from home and there had been many things I had wanted to see and do. I wanted to go off by myself and explore the city but everything had been organized for me, in my best interests to be sure. But my time had not been my own, and frankly, I was a little bit resentful.

After I had dragged my weary bones into the bus and was heading back to the farm, I meditated on this. How often had I been guilty of arranging every moment of my guests' time? I sat up guiltily.

There was the time Gran had come to spend a week. We had been scared stiff that she would be bored with our simple country life (she lives in Toronto) and so we had carefully

arranged every day, nay every hour of her visit. She had been shown the town, treated to a Saturday night barn dance and generally exhibited around as though she were a prize-winning head of livestock. I remember her asking if country folk always led such a mad pace. I had been too dumb then to realize that she was probably hinting at a good quiet day at home.

Then there was the time Mary came. We had been pen-pals since school days but met rarely. She only had a few hours between trains. To entertain her I invited a few friends in and we played bridge. As I thought back, I had to admit that I and probably Mary, too, would have much rather had a good relaxing talk before the fireplace.

Why go on? We've all been the victim or the guilty party at some time or other. There seems to be something in the human make-up that makes us feel that we have to entertain our visitors all the time. It is only when we have been the victim of an "organized" visit that we realize how inconvenient it is.

I wonder, now, if Princess Elizabeth and Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, didn't resent it a little that their Canadian tour was so completely organized and their time so fully occupied.

At the bus station, Ray met me with a telegram from Aunt Lou; she was coming up to the farm for a couple of days.

"Have to have a party so she can meet the folks?" Ray asked.

Remembering my own week-end of organized visiting, I muttered, "No, sir, she's coming up for a holiday and that's what she's going to get."

Never again will I be guilty of taking my house guests in hand and organizing their every minute. Maybe some of them will be bored and wonder how on earth we stand the inactivity. But I'll wager that most of them will relish the chance to do as they please, seeing what they like and rejecting what does not interest them. I'm going to try it on Aunt Lou.

## A Correction

In the May issue of The Country Guide the recipe for the lemon filling use in making Lemon Slice was incorrect. The ingredients should be:

### Lemon Slice

1 c. sifted flour	1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 c. butter	1 egg
1 tsp. baking powder	1 T. milk
	1 tsp. vanilla

Sift flour, salt and baking powder. Cut in butter. Beat egg, add milk and vanilla. Add to flour mixture. Press soft dough into pan. Cover with cooled lemon filling:

2/3 c. sugar	1 egg, slightly beaten
1/4 c. lemon juice	
Grated rind lemon	1 T. butter
2 1/2 T. flour	

Mix sugar and flour. Add lemon juice and rind, and egg. Cook in double boiler until thick. Add butter. Cool. Pour over dough in pan and top with:

1 egg	2 c. coconut
3 T. melted butter	1 tsp. vanilla
1 c. sugar	

Beat egg, stir in sugar. Add butter, coconut and vanilla. Spread over filling. Bake at 350° F. for 30 minutes. Cool.



Reach for the jar with the stars on top!

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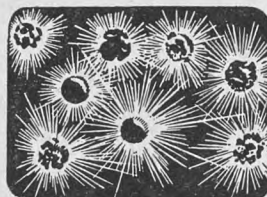
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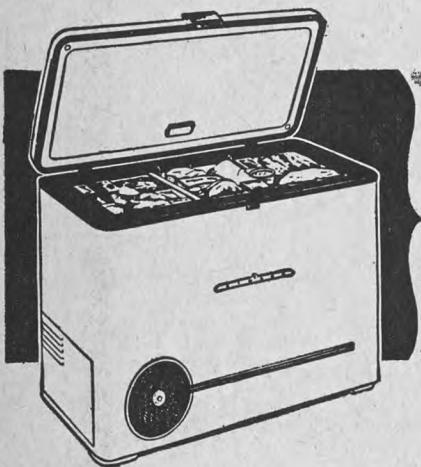
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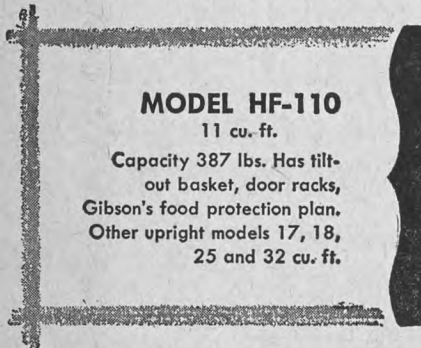
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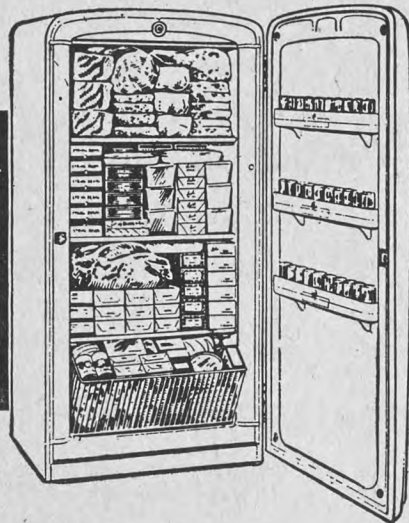
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## Wedding Customs

Continued from page 56

the powers of these supposed spirits and the practice is still followed in many districts. When a Manchurian bride arrives at her new home the bridegroom fires three arrows at the window blinds to dispel evil spirits before he lifts her from her sedan chair. Gunfire is still common in India, Morocco and Ireland. Close to home, in parts of the middle west the newly wedded are often noisily serenaded at midnight. Friends create a terrific racket with any crude implements to be found until the bridal couple appear and invite them inside for an hour's revelry and feasting.

When a husband lifts his bride over the threshold of their new home he is performing the same act as the groom in ancient Rome. The threshold was regarded as sacred to Vesta, goddess of virgins. It was considered an omen of misfortune to stumble over it. To prevent such an accident the groom lifted her over it. In marriage by capture the bride had to be forcefully taken into her husband's house, and in some countries it was considered im-

modest to be too willing to enter the new home with her husband.

From Morocco comes the custom of crossing swords over the heads of the bridal couple. There it is believed that evil spirits are afraid of steel and all weapons made of it. It is not out of the ordinary in that country for both bride and groom to carry a dagger to the ceremony.

The honeymoon, peaceful conclusion to the festivities, is the final throwback to ancient motive during the phase of marriage by capture. It was necessary then for the triumphant groom to go into hiding until the hostile tribe quelled its annoyance or moved away.

The modern young woman is indeed free from the original customs and superstitions that placed a yoke about her person and mind. No longer is the bride's hair cut to show submission to her husband. No longer is she carried off, purchased or bargained for. Yet from those days of long ago she has received a wealth of beauty in custom and tradition. As precisely as she glides down the aisle on her wedding day does she walk symbolically in the footsteps of her predecessors through the ages.

## Silver on the Table

How a small boy's query changed some family habits

by MARGARET COLEMAN JOHNSON

PHILIP started it all, the afternoon I was polishing the silverware, my last housecleaning chore.

"Mom," he said wistfully, as he balanced the tall silver salt shaker on his palm "Why do we only use these pretty things when we have company or when it's Thanksgiving or Christmas?"

I thought about the silverware sitting on the buffet shelves gathering dust and tarnish, waiting for the few occasions each year when it comes out for a brief use, a careful washing and then back to its place.

"It does seem silly, doesn't it?" I agreed.

"Then can we use it every day? Can we, Mom?" said Phil.

But I shook my head. "I can't seem to keep it polished now. I'd never get caught up to it if we used it every day."

"I'll help you polish it," said Phil cheerfully. "At least let's use the salt and pepper shakers. They're pretty!"

I slid a waiting pan of buns into the oven for supper, and gave my nine-year-old a kiss atop his head. "All right, fellow! And the bread tray too."

So the silverware came to supper. Somehow, that evening, the buns tasted especially good, and Philip found repeated need to use the shakers.

"How did you get them?" he asked. "Dad, did you buy them for Mom?"

Then Dad told a gay little story about the shakers being a wedding gift, those and five other sets. And as he talked, Philip's eyes grew shiny and his face glowed with delight.

Today is important to him. Not tomorrow, or next year, or when company comes. Adults see life as a whole, with bigger things in issue. Perhaps that is why we forget to take the little extra pains with ourselves and our home. A child sees only today, this

hour, this now. These impressions make the memory pictures that he will carry through the years.

After that day, I capitulated. One by one, the silver pieces became a part of our everyday tableware, kept on a handy shelf in the kitchen cupboard. A pretty jam jar was filled with my raspberry jelly. The chicken gravy was ladled from a graceful silver boat. The macaroni and cheese, crisp and yellow, came to the table in a silver casserole. And often there was the query: "Tell me the story. Who gave you this one?"

The silver pieces were endowed with storybook charm, and made our courtship and marriage a re-lived joy. And since our son is part of us and this marriage, it gave him a new pride. We were made aware of this powerful feeling of belonging together.

Paradoxically — before, when the silverware was kept for company and special occasions it was always tarnished and could never be used on the spur of the moment. Now, when we use it every day, it is always ready. Once a week we have a polishing bee. It takes less than an hour to do it all. Phil and Dad rub, and I wash and dry.

I see it now. A family can take too many short-cuts. We live in a world of speed and we rush through each day. But once we remember the little niceties of life, something in us reaches out for more.

Last night while Phil rubbed the sugar bowl with zest he said: "Today we had to write a composition about what the different rooms in our house are used for. It was easy, except the dining room. It took me a long time to think what to write for that one."

"And what did you finally say?"

"Oh," replied Phil, "I said the dining room is where we used to keep the silverware, and where we eat when we have company."

Any day now, I expect to begin setting the table in the dining room.



# Summer Designs

A variety of colorful, easy-to-make designs for June

by ANNA LOREE

## Colorful Accessories

Design No. E-2202

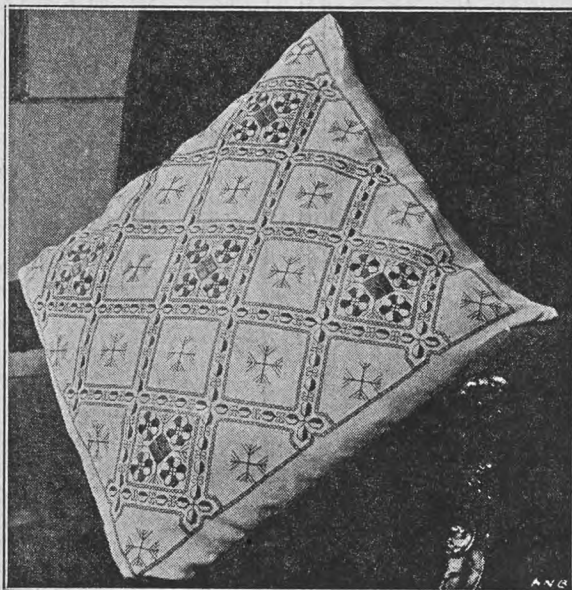
Easily made blouse and hat are cool and colorful for summer. Make them as shown in a navy-and-white polka dot rayon with white pique trim or in other combinations of printed and plain cotton or rayon. The blouse fastens with two large buttons, the bonnet-brimmed hat swathed in a polka dot scarf, is crownless and held in place with a bicycle clip. Materials required are 2½ yards polka dot rayon, ¾ yard waffle pique and washable interfacing for hat brim. Easily made accessory pair is Design No. E-2202. Price 10 cents.



## Embroidered Pillow Top

Design No. PH-3530

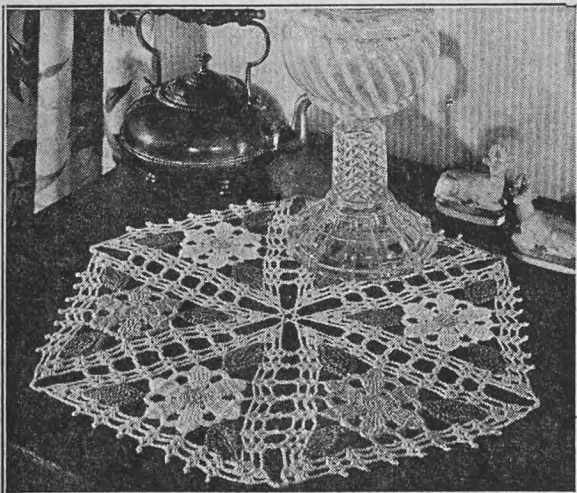
A pillow top to embroider in two tones of blue, red and green. This conventional pattern, similar to a peasant design, fits nicely into any living room or den. The design is worked on a 23-inch square of ecru linen or linen-like material with even weave. The embroidery is worked by counting threads, following the chart supplied. Embroidered pillow cover is Design No. PH-3530. Price 10 cents.



## Attractive Floral Doily

Design No. PC-6466

This hexagon doily features a floral motif in rose, green, yellow and white. Made in single, double and treble crochet and chain stitch, the instructions are easy to follow, the doily quickly made. Pearl cotton size 5 is used with Nos. 7 and 10 steel crochet hooks. Finished size is 15 inches from point to point. Hexagon doily is Design No. PC-6466. Price 10 cents.



Address orders to The Country Guide Needlework Dept., Winnipeg. Be sure to include your name and address as well as the design number for each pattern ordered.

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## Moth-Proof Storage

Paper bags protect woollens

by FLORENCE CLARE MILLER

IT has been stated that as much as a million dollars' worth of woollen material has been destroyed by moths in a single year. But good storage space for all the extra woollen mitts, caps, scarves, socks and sweaters that the children need when it is cold, is scarce.

Try using paper bags. As moths never eat through paper they make safe storage space. They are convenient to use, easy on the purse and can be stored in any cool, dry place. The large heavy brown paper type that is used for carrying groceries is good or if you can get the moisture-proof bags, so much the better.

Because moths are particularly attracted to soiled spots it is essential that all the woollens be perfectly clean. Launder the washable garments, have the rest dry cleaned. Be sure there are no holes in the bags you use and leave enough space at the top for a fold-over of two to three inches. Fold the top over twice and fasten it down securely with scotch tape, making sure that there is no opening left.

Write with a black grease pencil on each bag what is in it. Then at the first cold spell next fall you will be able to find quickly exactly what you want. You will be surprised how many mitts, caps, scarves, socks and sweaters these bags will hold.

I also find paper bags excellent containers for scraps of knitting wool and odds and ends of woollen material to be used for mending. Kept in a drawer or box they are apt to become moth-eaten; tied tightly in a bag they are fairly safe. Too, they are easily found at any time you want a piece from the labelled bag.

### Use for Old Cribs

If you have a cot or crib that the children have outgrown, here is a new use for it; convert it into a comfortable settee for them. It is easily done. Take away one side and shorten the legs so that it will be of convenient height for the children to sit on. With cretonne, or similar material, cover the mattress and make a valance to hang to the floor at the front and sides. Cover one or two little cushion forms with the same material and you have a cosy little seat the younger children will enjoy using.—C. V. Tench

### In the Spring Mood

Keep garden tools in repair and free from rust. If your tools have unpainted handles, give the tops of the handles a swab of some bright colored paint. Thus when someone borrows them, the touch of color will serve to remind him that the tools are "borrowed"—and to whom they belong. It is a good idea to keep a bottle of rust remover on hand so that if tools are accidentally left outside and so become rusty, the rust marks may be removed quickly.

\* \* \*

If you are having trouble with dust and muddy marks just inside your door, it probably is due to having no door mats just outside. Mats, whether cocoa, rubber or fibre, go far toward keeping dust and mud from being tracked into the house.—L. P. Bell.



# Family Holiday Wear



No. 4703—Softly fashioned shirtwaist classic is a year-round favorite. Unmounted sleeves may be cuffed, small collar open at the neck. Gathered skirt of 140 inches has concealed side pockets. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. Size 16 requires  $4\frac{3}{4}$  yards 35-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 4699—The triangular sleeves add a new touch to this slim dress with its pointed collar, short or three-quarter sleeves and soft pleats at skirt front. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. Size 16 requires  $3\frac{3}{4}$  yards 39-inch material. Price 50 cents.

No. 4725—For boys and girls a jacket and plastic-lined playsuit or boy's pants. Jacket has collar, cuffs and applique of contrasting material. Pants have elastic at waist back and inner legs. Playsuit is made with a front bib in one with pants and suspender straps. Sizes  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2 and 3 years. Size 2 requires for jacket  $\frac{3}{4}$  yard 36-inch material, contrasting trim and pants  $\frac{3}{4}$  yard 36-inch material. Price 35 cents.

State size and number for each pattern ordered.

Write name and address clearly.

Note price to be included in order.

Simplicity patterns may be ordered from The Country Guide Pattern Service, Winnipeg, or direct from your local dealer.

No. 4727—A romper playsuit and cover-up dress for toddler's wear. Dress has inside tucks at shoulder front and back, small round collar and a button front. Sunsuit has heart-shaped bib, buttoned-on suspenders and elastic at leg edges. Sizes  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2 and 3 years. Size 2 requires 2 yards 39-inch material for dress and sunsuit. Price 35 cents.

No. 4710—A fresh, cool dress and bolero to make in a printed cotton or plain with saddle stitching trim in a large size range. Sleeveless dress has low round neckline with applied band; gored skirt features pocket flaps. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years; 40, 42 and 44-inch bust. Size 20 requires  $4\frac{3}{4}$  yards 39-inch material for dress and bolero. Price 35 cents.

No. 4723—Specially sized for the shorter woman of five foot three or under, this sleeveless dress has wide pointed collar cut in one with front band, a pleat at center skirt front and pockets trimmed with bias. Sizes  $12\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $14\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $16\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $18\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $20\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $22\frac{1}{2}$  and  $24\frac{1}{2}$  (31 to 43-inch bust). Size  $18\frac{1}{2}$  (37) requires  $4\frac{3}{4}$  yards 39-inch material. Price 35 cents.



## The Seaway at Last

*Continued from page 7*

board? Will it increase the net incomes of western farmers?

It seems safe to assume that the Seaway is being proceeded with at this time because of the Canadian determination to wait only a reasonable period for U.S. co-operation; and if this was not forthcoming with reasonable promptness, to go it alone. This may have been a consequence of exhausted patience, as many periodicals suggest. It was more probably a result of the recognition by the Canadian government that we could lay down iron ore from Labrador for the gigantic United States steel industry for approximately two dollars per ton less than would be possible from other, non-Canadian, sources. This, it has been predicted, will allow development of these mines to the extent that 20,000,000 tons of ore a year can be produced and find a ready market. This sale alone could conceivably meet most of the Seaway costs.

This is not to say that Canada has just begun to favor the Seaway. Every Canadian government since 1928 has given the plan active support. Every United States administration (President and Cabinet) since Woodrow Wilson, has been for it, but until 1954, no United States Congress has favored it, and so nothing has been done.

It was in 1951 that Canada decided to build the Seaway alone, if necessary. In January, 1952, President Truman submitted the plan, once again, to Congress, and said: "The question before the Congress . . . no longer is

whether the St. Lawrence Seaway should be built . . . The question before Congress now is whether the United States shall participate in its construction . . . The project is to be built, whether or not we take part . . ." The Congress turned it down, and it was two years more before they agreed to it.

**W**HAT will be the chief value of the Seaway? "The most obvious benefit, from a Canadian point of view, is that the Seaway will open a much larger market for ore from Labrador than could otherwise be reached," stated the Hon. Lionel Chevrier, Minister of Transport, in a recent speech.

Even without the Seaway, the initial production goal in the Labrador mines is 10,000,000 tons of ore a year. However, after paying any likely tolls on the Seaway, the ore could compete in virtually the whole Great Lakes market which includes over 80 per cent of the United States steel mills. When the Seaway is completed, mining interests see an immediate market for 20,000,000 tons of ore a year, and after that, a steadily growing market.

This iron ore market is now ready-made and waiting. The famous Mesabi and other high-grade ore ranges near Lake Superior are being worked out, and can no longer keep up with the growing demand. Without the Seaway Mr. Chevrier has stated that indications are clear that ore costs will increase "a couple of dollars a ton or more, within a comparatively few years." This, he said, will increase costs to the steel mills about \$250,000,000

a year, an increase that will be reflected in the cost of steel. Perhaps avoidance of a rise in the costs of farm machines will be one of the big benefits gained by western Canadian farmers.

**W**ESTERN farmers presumably gain as all of Canada gains, but our attention is naturally focused on grain. Seaway economists estimate that five cents a bushel will be saved on the cost of grain shipments to Montreal, when the Seaway is completed and the big 10,000-ton lake boats can go through.

Some hope is held for gaining a little more. G. G. McLeod, economist,

Montreal is 33 cents for wheat, and reductions in the amount hauled by rail could also be responsible for savings.

Economists in the United States are freely predicting substantial savings on the shipment of American grain through the Seaway. Dr. J. T. Sanders, legislative counsel for the National Grange, testifying last year before the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said: "I figure that if we save from five to eight cents a bushel on the transportation of wheat, for example, it will save, at an average yield of 25 bushels per acre, the American farmer from \$1.25 to \$2.00 per acre each year in the increasing



*This cross section gives some idea of the rapid fall of the St. Lawrence River as it approaches the city of Montreal.*

Department of Transport, has said: "Since upbound cargoes (iron ore) promise to outweigh down (grain)—just the opposite of today—competition for down-bound grain cargoes should lower rates, to give them the greater part of the benefit." It is possible that competition for cargoes might add one cent to the savings.

The present rate, by water, from the Lakehead to Montreal, is 14½ cents a bushel. A reduction of five or six cents in this rate would be very substantial. The rail rate from the Lakehead to

price of wheat." In other words, the Seaway would put western Canadian and mid-western United States farmers in a better competitive position in world markets.

The American Farm Bureau Federation has pointed out to its 1,600,000 members that a transportation dollar will purchase ten miles of transport by water as against one mile by rail, and quotes, with approval, figures which predict per-bushel savings on wheat shipments of 5.5 to 7 cents.

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The U.S. Department of Commerce, in 1947, estimated a saving of five to seven cents a bushel on grain, resulting from uninterrupted movement in large bulk carriers from the head of the Lakes to lower St. Lawrence ports.

The minimum figure of approximately five cents on wheat shipments, appears to be widely accepted.

THE question is frequently asked whether ocean ships will load at Fort William-Port Arthur and proceed directly to Liverpool and other unloading ports across the Atlantic. The answer is a qualified "No." The regular Great Lakes freighters, although large enough, are not designed for ocean travel. It is thought that large, ocean-going freighters will wish to avoid coming through the Seaway, because of the loss of time involved in navigating the canals and locks. They will prefer to load nearer seaboard.

It is expected that trans-shipment from the "lakers" to "canallers" will be largely eliminated, and that grain will be carried to Montreal and beyond, by lake steamers. The grain will be unloaded and stored in enlarged facilities at Montreal and Rimouski in Quebec, and at Louisburg, Nova Scotia. Economists suggest that this will increase the winter railway flow of grain to the Atlantic ports. The end result should be that more wheat will be brought more cheaply to a point where it can be sold throughout the 12 months of the year.

The St. Lawrence Seaway may well act as a deterrent to the continued expansion of the Hudson Bay route for grain shipment. This route exists on savings comparable with those now expected from the St. Lawrence route.

WILL the Seaway be extensively used? The canals at Sault Ste. Marie handle more traffic in a year, at the present time, than the Suez, Panama and Kiel canals combined. The capacity of the present 14-foot canals between Lake Ontario and Montreal is presently about 10,000,000 tons a year. The estimated capacity of the 27-foot canals would be about 50,000,000 tons, and it is proposed to so build them that this capacity can be doubled to 100,000,000 tons when necessary, and the channel deepened to 30 feet.

Maximum deadweight capacity of ships allowable in the present 14-foot channel is 2,500 tons. The 27-foot channel will accommodate weights of 10,000 tons. Fewer ships would be required to carry a given tonnage. Present estimates envisage an annual movement of cargo through the channel that would include 20,000,000 tons of ore, 10,000,000 tons of grain, 4,000,000 tons of coal, 1,500,000 tons of paper, pulpwood and wood pulp, and possibly 8,000,000 tons of miscellaneous cargo.

The savings on this volume of traffic are estimated at \$45,000,000 to \$50,-

000,000 a year. How much of this would be net revenue, will depend on the tolls charged. The Seaway is planned to be self-liquidating, and tolls will have to be at a high enough level to maintain and operate the Seaway, pay interest at current rates on the funds borrowed, and amortize the investment over a period of 50 years. It has been estimated that these various charges will total approximately \$20,000,000 a year, which will leave \$25,000,000 to \$30,000,000 as a net reduction of transportation costs. Naturally this figure could be highly variable, but as there is general agreement that the Seaway will be used more as the years go by, rather than less, the figure could be higher quite as readily as lower.

Two entirely erroneous impressions about the Seaway are widely held. One is that the project is primarily undertaken to encourage the further development of western Canada and reduce the cost of delivering grain to seaboard. This will result, but the greatest economies and development will result from shipments moving in the opposite direction—the shipment of iron ore from the mines of Labrador to the steel mills of the United States.

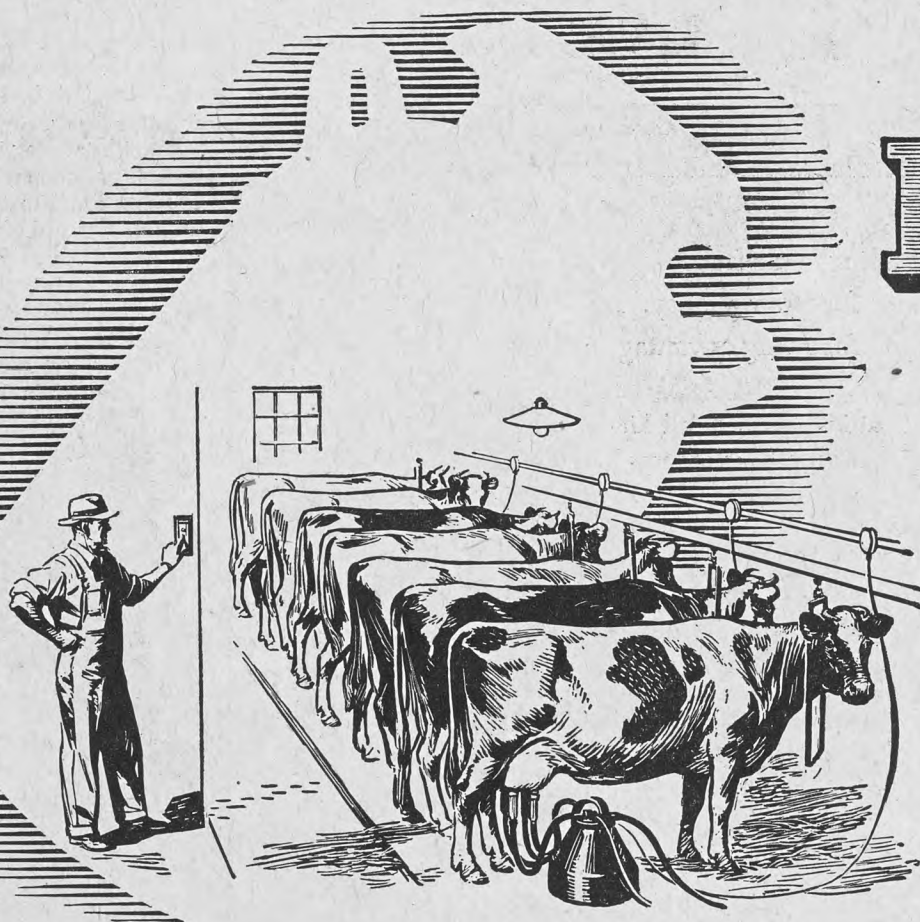
The other erroneous impression is that the Seaway is a new, untried and gigantic project, extremely difficult and very costly. In actual fact the present project is the final one of many similar

though smaller projects, the final link in an almost completed chain, distinguished from the other links chiefly in that it is to be forged in a single venture. From the Strait of Belle Isle, where the waters of the St. Lawrence River and the Atlantic Ocean merge, to the heart of the continent at Fort William and Duluth, deep-draft navigation has been an accomplished fact for many years. Inspiring as is the present project, it is no more inspiring than channels and locks in the St. Lawrence system that have already been successfully constructed.

When one remaining legal hurdle is cleared and the first 10,000-ton ship moves down the completed Seaway, a few years hence, the task, begun by trappers near Lachine over 250 years ago, will be finally completed. V



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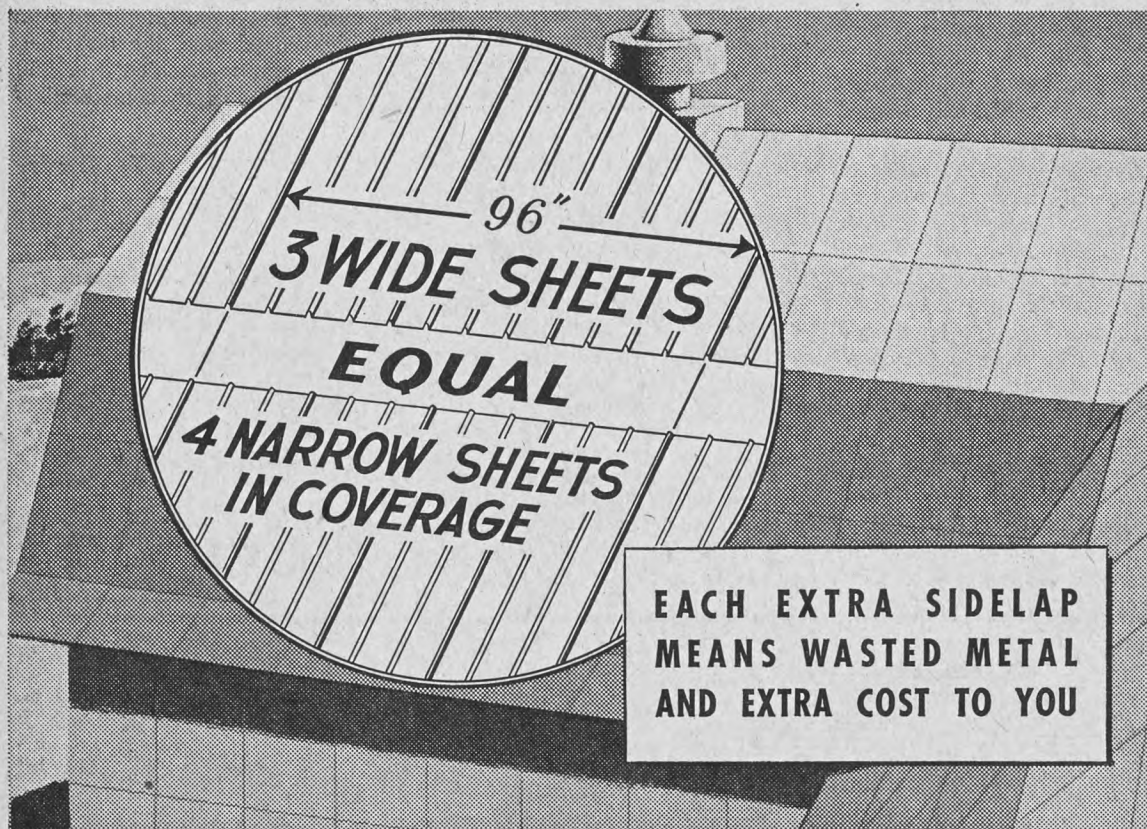
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## Farm Production in Western Europe

IN 1952-53 the population of western Europe was about 14 per cent more than in the prewar years. Gross agricultural production (including the value of imported feeds) showed a slightly lower agricultural production increase than the population increase, but net agricultural production (excluding imported feed used by domestic livestock) showed a little more production increase than population increase. Much the same condition existed with respect to livestock as to crop production.

(In many countries official statistics include only crop production under "agricultural production," livestock production being over and above such figures. In North America we commonly think of agricultural production as including all of farm production.)

If prewar production is taken as 100, crop production in 1947-48 was still down to 91. By 1949-50 it had risen to 105, and by 1952-53, to 117 (preliminary). Livestock production by 1947-48 was still at 85, rising to 102 by 1949-50 and 116 by 1952-53.

Wheat production is of more than usual interest to Canadian farmers at the present time. Wheat production in western Europe, Greece and Turkey, for the five-year period 1935-39 averaged 1,032 million bushels. For the five years 1945-49 it was still down to 864 million bushels, and did not exceed the prewar average until 1950-51 when it rose to 1,049 million bushels. In 1951-52 it was up to 1,154 million bushels and in 1952-53 (also preliminary), it had increased to 1,179 million bushels.

Notwithstanding this higher-than-prewar production, wheat acreages in most western European countries are now lower than before the war. Yields per acre, however, have increased enough so that total wheat production now is 14 per cent above prewar, although western Europe must still import large quantities of wheat. Out of 16 countries in 1952-53, only three were below prewar production in wheat. These were: Denmark (68) as compared with the Netherlands (50) and Norway (68). Of the other 13 countries (also with 100 representing prewar production, and arranged in order of percentage increase over prewar), Turkey led them all at 203; next, Ireland, 170; Greece, 169; United Kingdom, 155; Sweden, 138; Switzerland, 132; Belgium, 130; Portugal, 128; Western Germany, 126; Italy, 117; Austria, 116; France, 113; and Spain, 108.

The most remarkable increase in wheat production has occurred in Turkey, which in 1953, produced 275 million bushels of wheat as compared with an average of 135.7 million bushels for the 1935-39 period, and only 125.1 million bushels for the 1945-49 period. In those two periods the wheat acreage in Turkey averaged 8,973,000 acres and 9,436,000 acres respectively. Last year Turkey's wheat acreage was 15.3 million acres which was not very far from the acreage sown to wheat in Saskatchewan in a normal year. However, the average yield has increased. For the 1945-49 period it averaged 13.3 bushels per acre, but for 1951 it was 17.1 bushels; for 1952, 17.8 bushels; and for 1953, 18 bushels per acre.



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## Pea Dispute Settled in B.C.

THE Fraser Valley's green pea industry is rolling again, after a dispute between growers and processors which threatened to wipe out the \$500,000 pack for this year. Settlement was reached just four or five days short of the planting deadline, at a meeting called by the B.C. Coast Vegetable Marketing Board, which this season assumed control of the green pea crop for the first time. Intervention of the Board in the pea-processing industry was one of the underlying causes of the whole dispute.

Until this season growers had made their own individual contracts with processors, but there was much dissatisfaction over the wide variety of deals offered by different buyers. Last March, growers heavily endorsed a petition calling for the Marketing Board to regulate sale of their product via the Natural Products Marketing Act. Under this arrangement, all growers and packers were licensed, and a committee composed of three representatives from each group was formed to establish prices to be paid for the 1954 crop. Unhappy over the whole idea of Marketing Board control, processors balked at the prices suggested. The dispute was then placed in the hands of a judicial arbitration board.

The arbitrators set a price range from \$35 a ton for standard quality, to \$101 per ton for select quality peas. In addition, they recommended a charge to processors of \$10 per ton for harvesting. Growers accepted the award, but processors maintained they couldn't meet competition from Alberta and U.S. peas, if they paid growers the prices set by the Board.

The only money made last year, contended the processors, was on peas they grew themselves. In a move to challenge Board authority, they began leasing Valley land to grow their own crop. Claiming they wouldn't plant a pea unless packers agreed to the prices set by arbitration, the Pea-growers' Association countered by launching a campaign to get as many farmers as possible to refuse to rent any land. Already able to restrict the amount of land a processor can lease, the Marketing Board hurried through an amendment to their regulations, which would give them power to stop delivery of peas to any processor, even those grown by the processor himself. Then the deadlock was on.

As planting time neared, the processors won their point. Collapse of the pea industry would be a serious blow to the economy of the whole area. Settlement was finally made on a five per cent reduction in the prices set by arbitration, with the exception of peas falling within the two lowest "tenderometer" readings. The Marketing Board withdrew its restrictions on processors growing their own peas on leased land.

End of the dispute saw the 150 Valley growers hurrying into their fields to plant this year's crop. Delays imposed by the late season and the dispute will see a slight reduction in average annual production of 2,500 tons, but the important point is that there will be a crop.—C.V.F.



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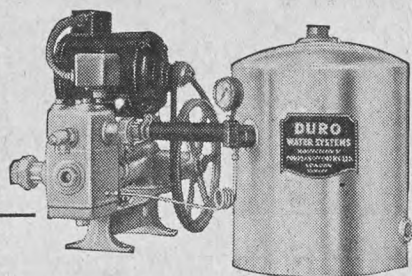
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## Notes from British Columbia

*Frost, flood prospects and the problems of the fluid milk industry highlight acute B.C. problems*

by C. V. FAULKNER

**Okanagan Frost Damage.** Fruit growers of the sunny Okanagan Valley will long remember the last three days of April, 1954. In that short period temperatures tumbled to a record April low of 21 degrees above zero at Kelowna, with unofficial readings as low as 12 degrees, in several isolated pockets. Wiped out, virtually overnight, were months of hard work and careful planning.

Hardest hit of all were the soft fruit areas at the southern end of the Valley: damage to cherries, peaches, pears, and apricots has been estimated in some instances to run as high as 95 per cent, while other farms not far away escaped almost unharmed. That was the nature of the cold snap—its unwanted favors were distributed unevenly from sector to sector. One new grower had just put \$10,000 down on a peach and apricot orchard, the balance to come from the crop. Now there will be no crop. Other growers on the higher benches were touched only lightly.

In the apple-producing areas of the Central Okanagan damage was generally less severe. Here the frost singled out the Delicious variety for special attention, although some growers state the king blossoms on their McIntosh Reds have been nipped appreciably. Pear growers here, like the soft fruit men to the south, will have to wait another year for a satisfactory crop.

The king blossom is the center one in a five-bud cluster. From this comes the big, juicy red apple, which forms the bulk of the crop. The other blossoms develop later, and the apples formed are generally much smaller. Frost injury to the king blossoms would mean a big drop in yields, and affect the whole apple industry.

Estimates of the over-all damage to Okanagan crops vary from 25 to 75 per cent. Industry spokesmen are inclined to discount the higher figure, and have advised growers to adopt a wait-and-see policy. The frost will leave its mark on the Valley's economy this year, but it will be a few weeks before the full extent of the damage is known.

**Bulkley Valley Milk Producers.** On the Northern Line of the Canadian National Railways, farmers of the Bulkley Valley have designated their area as the milkshed of the newly industrialized North Coast region. To prove their claim they are building a first-rate dairy industry that is sending increasing quantities of quality milk west through the Coast Range to the ocean port of Prince Rupert. Last summer the Bulkley Valley Milk Producers' Association purchased the Northland Dairy in the Coast city to gain greater control over the marketing of their product.

For years, Prince Rupert had been getting most of its milk from the Fraser Valley, two days' boat trip to the south. By the time the milk arrived in the northern city it had lost a

good deal of its freshness. In Prince Rupert dairies the imported milk was mixed with the fresher Bulkley Valley product, and the identity of the latter was lost. Today, all that is changed: the producer-owned Northland Dairy now handles only Bulkley Valley milk, plus a small quantity from the Nechanko Dairy at Vanderhoof.

With the identity of their product established, northern producers set about to build a reputation for top quality. The usual thrice-weekly milk shipments from the Valley were increased to six times a week. This worked a bit of a hardship on producers in isolated locations, who couldn't take turns with neighbors in bringing milk to the train, but the extra effort paid off. It put fresher milk on the Prince Rupert market, and consumers showed their appreciation. Since last January, sales of Bulkley Valley milk have increased by 1,000 gallons a week.

Milk shipments from the Valley involved working out a refrigeration problem with the C.N.R. Good ice refrigeration in the baggage car is the best producers can manage until they build up their production to the 200 cans per day needed to guarantee a proper refrigerator car. But they're working on it. Four new shippers have joined the Co-op ranks since last fall, and a 22-head carload of new dairy stock from the Fraser Valley was eagerly bought up.

Bulkley Valley producers are looking to the future. Some day they hope to supply the whole Prince Rupert market, and other Coast outlets as well. Most promising other Coast outlet is the new aluminum city of Kitimat, expected to reach a population of 50,000 within ten to 14 years—a target worth aiming at.

**Milk Controversy Continues.** The major milk crisis forecast for the end of March arrived very quietly, if it arrived at all. Independent distributors in Vancouver applied to the Milk Board for licenses to sell milk, and, as they vowed to do, dropped the bonds they are required to post which ensure payment to producers of the Board's fixed price. The thud was barely audible. At the same time, they carefully explained that the bonds were not thrown down (gauntlet style) in open defiance of Board orders, but had been let go (gently and reluctantly) through inability to carry them longer under present marketing conditions.

Just as quietly (and firmly) the Milk Board proceeded with the prosecution of the one small distributor who had failed to take out a bond last year, and let it be known that other prosecutions are pending. Maximum fine under the charge is \$1,000.

Farther down the line, however, things were not so quiet. Although unaffected by bonding regulations, the big producer-owned Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association levelled a broadside at the cause of the ruckus



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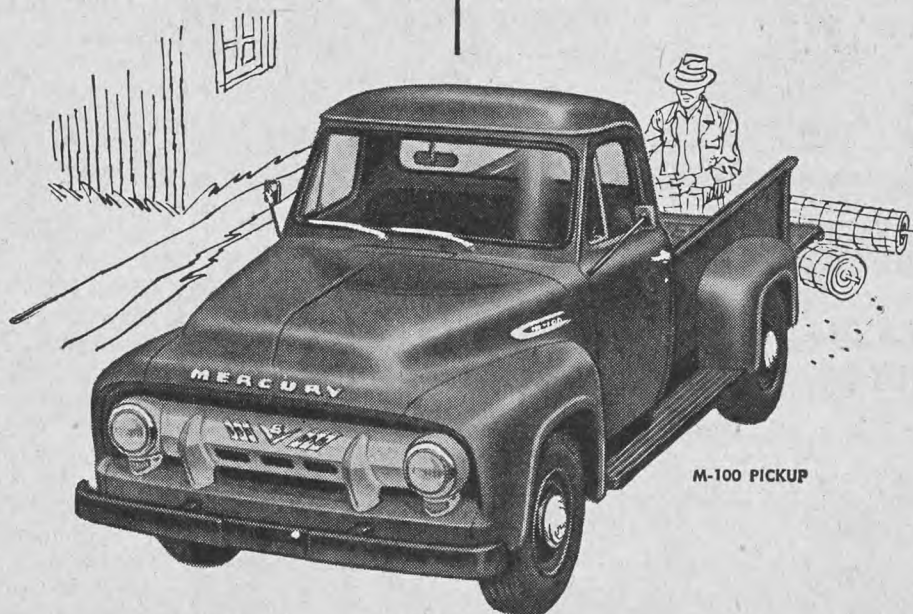
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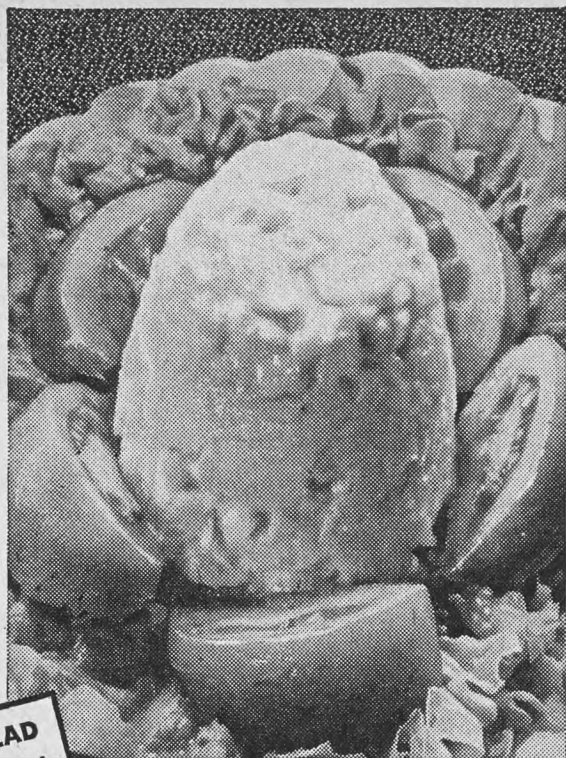




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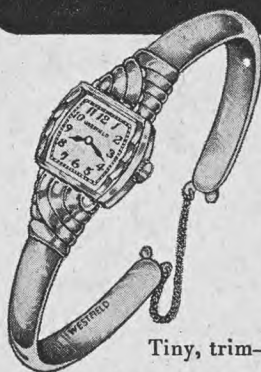
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—Milk Board Order No. 40 of last year—which decontrolled all milk prices above the producer level.

"Who asked for decontrol?" the F.V.M.P.A. wanted to know: "It was certainly no person or group who obtains their livelihood from the dairy industry."

The Milk Board let fly with Order No. 46, specifically naming the Association, for failure to comply with sections of orders Nos. 41 and 40. The former lists the minimum price to be paid to primary producers, and the latter states that producers be given a full monthly statement showing all deductions made from the fixed Board price of \$5.03 per 100 pounds of 3.5 per cent milk. The F.V.M.P.A.'s first settling rate statement under the new regulations, which require all distributors to show what they paid for fluid milk, announced a price of \$4.00 per 100 pounds—more than \$1.00 per 100 pounds below the Board price.

Order No. 46 instructs the F.V.M.P.A. to furnish a new, completely itemized statement for the month of March, and that it must be in producers' hands before an April statement is issued. A similar statement must cover each monthly settlement from now on. ✓

One man with courage makes a majority.—Andrew Jackson.

**Flood Threats.** Official warning has been passed to residents of all low-lying valleys in B.C. to prepare for the most serious flooding since the disastrous inundations of 1948. Most potent threat lies in the valleys of the Columbia and Kootenay Rivers, where an increase of ten per cent in the snow pack since April 1 presents a flood potential 53 per cent greater than that of the flood year. Snow conditions in the Interior watersheds that feed the Fraser River, closely parallel those of 1948 when \$20,000,000 worth of damage was done in the Coastal sector alone.

But it all depends on the weather, and a special combination of weather at that. The flood threat is the result of abnormally cold temperatures during April, which retarded normal snow melting and spring run-off. A general rise in temperatures, accompanied by normal or above-normal rain, would super-charge just about every stream in the province. On the other hand, a long spell of clear weather, with warm days and cool nights, could regulate the flow and avoid those peak discharges which do all the damage.

With their experiences of the last flood to guide them, residents of the lower Fraser Valley are watchful, but not alarmed. In the first place it may not happen at all. If it does, just about every agency and individual is organized to meet the emergency. The Valley now has one of the best dyking systems in the province. More important, the dykes are accessible, and wide enough for truck traffic—in some places wide enough for two-way traffic. In 1948, dyke workers learned that with enough trucks to bring material and manpower, levees could be built up faster than the water could rise. The Fraser will have a fight on its hands if it goes on the rampage this year. ✓

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# The Country Boy and Girl

**W**HEN you turn on the electric switch which floods your house or yard with light or operates the electric milker or grain chopper, did you ever wonder how that tremendous power is made? How did man first discover electricity? The credit must be given not to one man but to many men who, each adding to the information of the other, were at last able to produce electricity.

One of the first men to do experiments on electricity was Benjamin Franklin who in 1752 performed his famous kite experiment. He believed that lightning and electricity were the same and if he could draw some of the electricity from the clouds he would be able to prove his point. He decided he could draw down the lightning from the clouds by means of a kite. His kite was made of silk covering a wooden frame. To the top of the kite he fastened a very sharp pointed wire rising about a foot above the wood. A long twine string led from the kite and to the end of this string near his hand he tied a silk ribbon. A key was fastened to the string where it joined this silk ribbon.

Several days later the sky began to darken and thunder clouds formed in the sky. Franklin soon had his kite flying but he made sure to stand inside a shed where neither he nor the silk ribbon became wet or he might have been killed by the lightning. When the rain had soaked the kite and string Franklin put the knuckles of his hand on the key. Sparks flashed from the key—Franklin had succeeded in doing something no other man had done before—he had drawn lightning from the sky with his kite and had proved that lightning is electricity. From his discoveries Franklin invented the lightning rod which carries the electric discharge into the ground thus preventing damage to buildings.

*Ann Sankey*

## Wishing Willie

by MARY GRANNAN

**T**HE strangest thing happened to Willie Wallace. Willie was a wisher. Wishing is fun, if you don't make it a bad habit. But Willie had done that. It didn't matter what Willie had, or where he went, he wished for something different.

He had been wishing for a fire truck for weeks. His mother decided that she would give him one for his birthday. It was a beautiful fire truck. It was large enough for Willie to ride in. It had two extension ladders, and a siren. His father bought him a fireman's helmet, and rubber coat with metal clasps.

When Willie came to breakfast, the morning of his birthday his mother and father sang the "Happy Birthday" song, and then led the little boy to the dining room, where his beautiful gifts were waiting for him.

"Thank you very much, Mum and Dad," said the little boy. "It's a lovely fire truck, but I wish you'd given me a tricycle, instead. The fireman's coat and hat are very nice too, but I wish they were a cowboy suit and hat."

"But Willie," said his mother, disappointment showing in her face, "you've been saying ever since Christmas, when you got your express cart, that you wanted a fire truck."

Willie nodded his head. "I know," he said, "but I changed my mind."

His father made no comment, but suggested that he was hungry, and it was time for breakfast. "And mother has a surprise for you too, Willie," he said. "She got up an hour earlier this morning so that she could make waffles for you."

Willie smiled at his mother, and said, "Thank you very much, Mum. But I wish you hadn't bothered. I'd rather have bacon and eggs. I always wish for bacon and eggs on my birthday."

Mr. Wallace frowned and looking at Willie, he said sternly, "Willie, I'm getting a bit tired of your wishing. You've made your mother very unhappy this morning."

"I'm sorry, Dad," said the little boy. "But I can't help it can I, if I'd rather have something else?"

"Yes, you can help it," said his father. "Wishing is becoming a bad habit with you. The other day when your mother bought you new black shoes, you wished for brown. When your grandmother brought you the lovely blue sweater the other day, you wished it were red. Nothing seems to satisfy you. Perhaps you don't mean to hurt other people's feelings, but you're doing it."

After breakfast Willie took the truck to the street. He was wearing his helmet. It was solidly built, like a regulation helmet, so Willie did not feel a little bug light on its crown. This was a very special bug. It had been following Willie around for days. Willie had made 99 wishes that week, and this bug was waiting for the hundredth.

Willie was having such fun with his truck, that the bug began to despair. Perhaps Willie wasn't going to wish again. But Willie did. His helmet began to feel warm and heavy, and he took it off. He saw the bug. "Hi, little Bug!" he said.

"I got this fire truck and fireman's suit for my birthday, Bug," Willie went on. "They're nice, aren't they? But I wish I'd got a tricycle and a cowboy suit instead."

It was the hundredth wish! "I'll get you a cowboy suit, Willie," the Bug said. "I'm the wishing bug, and I can get you anything that you want."

Willie was delighted. He wished right away, that he were a cowboy, riding the range. There was a flash of light, and there was Willie, clad in chaps, checked shirt, ten gallon hat, and spurs, riding a horse. A man came riding toward him. "What are you loitering here for," he said to Willie. "The fences need mending. Get to work and be quick about it."

"Oh, but I don't work here," said Willie. "I'm just going to ride the range, and sing."

The man scowled, and the Wishing Bug whispered, "You'd better mend the fences, Willie. There's no loafing around this ranch, you know."

"But I don't want to mend fences. I wish I'd never wished to be a cowboy," said Willie. There was another flash of light and Willie was himself again. He laughed. This was wonderful! He wished for some candy. Lollypops began to fall out of the sky. Big ones! Little ones! They showered over Willie with such force that they hurt him. Soon he was knee deep in them, and they smelled so sweet that they made him ill. He tried to dig his way out of them, but he couldn't do so.

"Wishing Bug, where are you? Help me out of these lollypops, please."

"You'll have to wish yourself out of them," chuckled the wishing bug.

"I wish I weren't knee deep in lollypops," said the little boy. The lollypops disappeared, and Willie sighed in relief. "I didn't want that much candy, Wishing Bug. I'd have enjoyed one, but now, I don't care if I never see another lollypop as long as I live. I'm going to make sure that I don't wish for anything that can fall on my head."

The bug laughed merrily. Willie began to wonder if he liked his new friend. But he was handy to have around. Willie began to think of

things he'd like to do, instead of things he'd like to have. "I wish I could have a ride on the merry-go-round," he said.

Before Willie could turn around, he was riding around on a little blue horse on a merry-go-round. Around and around and around he went, and around again. "That's enough," he gasped. "I've had enough." But still the merry-go-round went around. "Oh, let me down, let me down," he begged. The bug did not stop the whirling wheel. "I wish it would stop," screamed Willie.

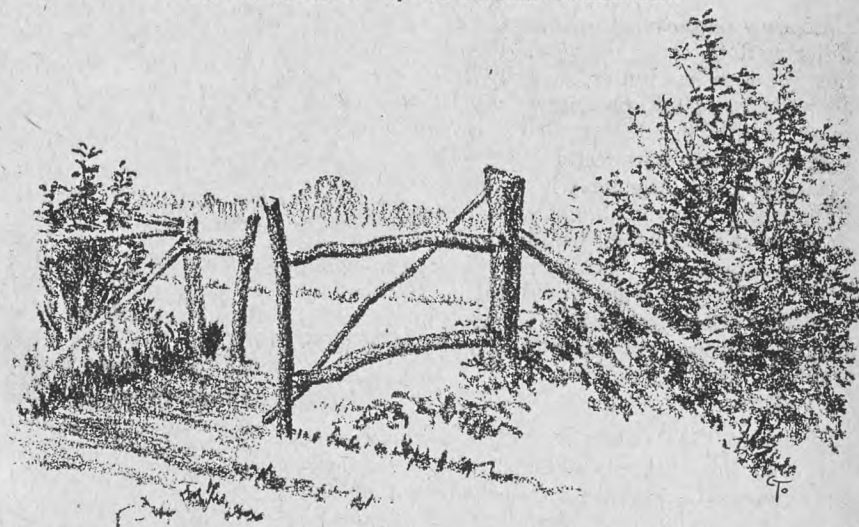
The little blue horse slowed down, and Willie tottered to the ground, dizzy from his long ride. He looked at the laughing bug. "I don't like you, Wishing Bug. I don't like you at all," he said. "I wish you'd go away and leave me alone."

The wishing bug disappeared, and there sat Willie alone, on his fire truck. He ran into the house and threw himself in his mother's arms. "Mum," he said, "I'm sorry for the way I acted this morning. I love my fire truck and my fire helmet. Mum, do you know what was the matter with me? I had a wishing bug, and I didn't know it. But I've sent him away, and he's never going to come back again."

And that's what happened to Willie Wallace. It can't happen to you because it happens only once.

## Sketch Pad Out-of-Doors

No. 28 in series—by CLARENCE TILLENUS



**A**N old pole gate may seem an unlikely subject for a sketch, but an artist does not usually give himself a reason for drawing anything. When something interests him, he draws it; and that is that.

However, every illustrator of experience will agree that looking through old sketch books with their hundreds of sketches, notes, fragments of drawings and hurried jottings about color, light, people and animal groupings, is like opening a storehouse of ideas.

Many a time when preparing to illustrate a story from farm life or the backwoods, I have looked through my sketch books and found some bit of background or action notes which gave me just what was wanted to make the composition.

These notes may be done very quickly, but they should be done with care. One thing I have found very useful is to indicate wherever you can where the horizon comes in a sketch. It is the work of a moment to put this in. If you neglect it, you may be puzzled later on as to just from what angle you looked at the scene. In the accompanying sketch the horizon comes just about at the level of the top of the gate. It is always at the level of your eye when you are drawing.

Remember: The horizon is always at the level of your eye. If you are sitting down on the level ground a man standing up in front of you, would be head and shoulders above the horizon line. If you sat on a hill and looked across a valley, anything in the valley would appear below the horizon.



# THE Country GUIDE

with which is incorporated

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## Food, Prices, and Farming

THE relationship between the farmer and the consumer is measured in economic terms, by prices. These express the relationship between demand and supply. The consumer of food products, —the housewife, for the most part—, very largely determines the prices at which these products will move into consumption. If she and all other consumer-purchasers will not buy enough of a product, at current prices, to take it off the market within a reasonable period, either a market must be found elsewhere for it at that price, or less of the product must be produced, or the price must come down. What usually happens is that the price comes down, after which less of it is produced, until demand and supply are in a satisfactory relationship.

The situation is the same if the housewife wants a particular product, —say, a roast of pork—, when pork is not plentiful. It may be that there are fewer hogs in the country, or that the export market will pay more for it than the housewife has been accustomed to paying. In any case, the Canadian housewife must pay more for her roast under these conditions, or her family must do without. Only if demand were precisely adjusted to supply, or if government rigidly controlled prices, could prices remain constant.

Demand is not a mere measure of what people want, or wish they could have: the measure of demand is the price at which consumers will actually buy. There are no doubt many millions of people throughout the world who want our wheat, but because they can not pay for it what we believe it is worth, they cannot have it. Many people in Canada could no doubt have afforded to eat butter during the last few years, instead of margarine. Because they chose not to do so, either the price of butter had to come down, or the dairy industry must produce less butter. Actually, the government stepped in and told producers and dairy manufacturers, months in advance, that it would be willing to take over any butter at a specified price, during certain periods. Anyone who wanted to produce butter under those conditions was free to do so. The government would then use its stocks of butter to protect consumers during the slack producing months. This protection would not be afforded by regulating prices, but by putting more butter on the market, if prices got too high, and leaving it to supply to bring prices down.

NO one in 1954 should harbor the mistaken idea that the law of supply and demand does not operate. It does. It underlies every commercial activity in the free world, notwithstanding that it may be masked by governmental interference in some countries, and with some products, and may be almost completely submerged under government controls, in countries like Russia. If the law of supply and demand does not work, it should be as easy to sell work horses to farmers on the Regina plains, or used cars to the Eskimos, as it is to sell cream to a creamery.

Consumers are the final arbiters of price, but the share of that price which producers receive, has been declining in recent years. There are several reasons for this decline, some of which many farm families probably do not appreciate. Between the farm price and the price the consumer eventually pays, there are at least two major intermediaries. One is the wholesaler or processor, the other, the retailer. A third factor is labor, a fourth is transportation, and a fifth, more recently introduced, may be called packaging. The costs of labor, of transportation, and all of the costs of operating businesses, whether wholesale or retail, have gone up

very sharply since the war, with the result that the distance between the farm price and the consumer's price has widened very substantially. When consumers, including farm families, demand food in attractive packages, this adds to the cost of marketing, just as much as when labor demands higher wages on railways, in stores, or in processing plants.

Moreover, let us suppose that a peck of potatoes, or a unit of any other product, retails for 75 cents, of which the farmer gets 30 cents. If the farm price declines to 25 cents, that means a decline of a little more than 16 per cent; but if the retail price is promptly dropped five cents—an equal amount—the consumer price declines only six or seven per cent. As soon as the intervening costs increase and widen the distance between farm and consumer prices, farm prices become a smaller proportion of what the consumer pays; and any fluctuation, percentage-wise, is much greater than an equal quantitative fluctuation in consumer prices.

Farmers today are much concerned about marketing, and rightly so. Nevertheless, there is a great deal of confusion on the subject, and the prejudice that this often gives rise to, could well be replaced by more factual information. The marketing of farm products is a very complicated process, but farmers and their organizations are in great need of more facts than they appear to possess. Indeed, thousands of prairie farmers send their livestock to market by truck, without any idea of whether the animals will be marketed through the stockyards, or at what plant they may be delivered. It is safe to say that their marketing problems will never be solved satisfactorily until they take pains to learn more of the marketing process than they can possibly learn by this degree of negligence. Under such circumstances, if some packing plants in Saskatchewan and Alberta (not Manitoba) have been offering inducements to truckers to divert livestock to them, should this be surprising? Who, in any case, is primarily to blame? V

## Importance of Education

H. G. WELLS, in "The Outline of History," wrote that "human history becomes more and more a race between education and catastrophe." Robert C. Cook, editor of *The Journal of Heredity*, in a book published two or three years ago, said much the same thing, but based his conclusion on studies of heredity in man. Wells wrote during World War I, but if he were writing today he would probably see little reason to change his opinion. He might even believe that our condition had worsened, and that professional educators in Canada no longer agree (if they ever did) about the purposes of education.

Canadians should be grateful to Dr. Hilda Neatby, professor of history at the University of Saskatchewan, for having penned a vigorous criticism of Canadian educational systems, in her book "So Little for the Mind." We do not suggest that she is right in all that she has written, because to do so would be to assume for ourselves an ability to equal what would be an astounding achievement. We do believe she is largely right in her basic approach to education, and we suggest that she is entitled to our gratitude, as a modest reward for having engendered more discussion of the meaning and purpose of education, than anyone in Canada during the last generation.

We hope that this discussion has penetrated deep into the heart of rural Canada, because experience suggests that where education depends on balancing taxes with learning, the former too often tips the scales. It may be heresy, but the truth must out: education—learning—is more important than a mill or two on the tax roll. Teacher shortages and lowered teaching standards, because of too low salaries for years past, may save money now, but they will cost more later, and will continue to cost more throughout every year of the average grown-up's working years.

Education pays. Our conviction is that the lively controversy over education that has been under way for some time past, would be far less disturbing, if more Canadian parents were aware of this basic fact. V

## Television

THE inauguration of television service in western Canada on May 31, raises questions of its importance to farmers and their advisers. As an extension and adult education medium, television offers advantages which far surpass those available from radio.

CBC radio experience suggests that farmers, quite aside from entertainment features, want weather information, market news, and other information which will be of assistance in the production and marketing of farm crops and livestock. U.S. experience indicates that television will be expected to provide the same kind of service, but that it will be able to do so much more effectively, because TV programs will be both seen and heard. The experts have concluded that people cannot carry away more than 30 per cent of what they hear—most generous estimate, in our view—, but as much as 70 per cent of what they see. Whether the percentages are entirely correct is less important than the undoubted fact that the difference is very great.

It may well be that within a comparatively few years the cost of increasing the efficiency of extension and adult educational work will be found much less, if TV is utilized effectively, than if present methods are relied on. The entertainment aspects of television may be left to take care of themselves, for the time being at least, but our departments of agriculture and extension agencies could do a distinct disservice to those whom they are expected to serve, by adopting a too-niggardly wait-and-see attitude toward TV. This year—this summer—is not too soon for a thorough exploration of its possibilities. Plans should be laid to bring the widely scattered farm population of western Canada more closely into touch with the rapidly increasing store of useful information that is available. Those who are engaged in farming should have readier access to the results of experience, investigation, experimentation and research, and TV promises to be of great value in this direction. V

## The St. Lawrence Seaway

BY the time this issue is received, the State of New York may have received the approval of the courts to proceed, jointly with Ontario, toward the development of hydro-electric power along the St. Lawrence River. This last obstacle overcome, the first steps toward the actual completion of the great St. Lawrence Seaway and Power Project can be only a matter of a few days, or weeks.

A general review of the Seaway Project, as distinct from power development, appears elsewhere in this issue. A very large number of Canadians will join with the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe in his preference for an all-Canadian Seaway development, after decades of procrastination and delay by the U.S. Congress had stretched Canadian patience pretty thin; but, fortunately, there is enough neighboring territory remaining for Canada to muster a welcoming smile.

There can be little doubt that, for prairie Canada, the surmounting of the final hurdle will be an occasion for general rejoicing. To bring ocean-going vessels from the Atlantic to the edge of our great Midwest, and nearly halfway to the Pacific, will mean less costly transportation for farm products and other raw materials to the centers of population and of industry in the East, and to foreign markets. The Prairie Provinces are already low-cost grain-producing areas, with the added advantage of a high-quality product; and this coming development will further guarantee their economies.

The completion of the project will almost certainly influence the future development of the Hudson Bay Route. It cannot, however, do other than benefit Canada as a whole, notwithstanding that adjustments here and there may be necessary. Time will be required before it will be possible to assess the full value of the Seaway to Canada. Even after years of actual operation, it would require an exhaustive research project to do so with any degree of accuracy. Increased trade and population, lower transportation costs, and general growth, can be measured in dollars to some extent, but it is never possible to apply dollar values fully, to influence exerted upon an economy and a people. V